

happy holiday decorating!

HGTV

magazine

* Fresh new
color combos
page 77

163
festive
ideas
all through the
house

trim
some
mini trees



GIFT
BUYING
MADE
EASY!
81 stylish
finds

* Jolly good
Christmas
cookies
page 133

* Merry DIY
projects
page 58





Joy to the Table

A table like this invites you and your friends to linger long after dessert is served. Visit your local store or pier1.com/tablescapes to explore the possibilities.



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MAGIC**

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for you & yours





Finishing Touches

Once the tree is trimmed and the stockings are hung, it's all about the details. Show off your holiday style with festive pillows, greenery and more—all at pier1.com/holidayideas or your local store.



Pier1 IMPORTS™



light fixture

Superior Moravian Star
18"-tall glass and metal
outdoor light in white, \$455,
shadesoflight.com

25 house numbers

Modern 6"-tall
powder-coated-
aluminum house
numbers in red, \$34
each, moderndwell
numbers.com



chair

Nardi Zac Spring
resin folding
chair in red, \$75,
cozydays.com



planter

Threshold Reactive Glaze
16"H x 18"-diameter resin planter
in red, \$40, Target stores. We
filled ours with a holly bush.

come on in!



front door of the month

door

Architectural fiberglass door,
from \$1,339, jeld-wen.com
for stores; Baldwin Baltimore
Single Cylinder Mortise brass
handleset in oil-rubbed-bronze
finish, \$276.50, build.com. We
added furniture nails to the
top and bottom of the door's
center panel.

paint

Fertile Green
by Behr

DIY it!

Hammer in furniture
nails to adorn a door.

Agave Ironworks
1 5/8"-diameter iron furniture
nails in black, \$3.50 each,
lowes.com



doormat

Black Stripes coir doormat, \$37, bambeco.com



log holder

Frame 18"W x 12"D x 48"H
steel log holder, \$199,
crateandbarrel.com

MAKING IMPRESSIVE FIRST IMPRESSIONS.



"HIGHEST RANKED COMPACT SUV IN INITIAL QUALITY IN A TIE."

At Chevrolet, we know there's nothing more important than making a good first impression. So it should come as no surprise that Equinox was named "Highest Ranked Compact SUV in Initial Quality in a Tie" by J.D. Power. See for yourself why people are in love with Equinox at chevy.com/equinox.



CHEVROLET EQUINOX

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The Chevrolet Equinox received the lowest number of problems per 100 vehicles among compact SUVs in a tie in the proprietary J.D. Power 2015 Initial Quality Study.™ Study based on responses from 84,367 new-vehicle owners, measuring 244 models and measures opinions after 90 days of ownership. Proprietary study results are based on experiences and perceptions of owners surveyed in February–May 2015. Your experiences may vary. Visit jdpower.com.

CHEVROLET



come on in!

Even when it's freezing outside, this Chicago-area home feels warm and cozy. The tour starts on page 105.



look what's inside...

our December issue

77



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help wanted

19 Less Stress, Less Mess

Avoid seasonal bummers with these clever holiday helpers.

29 How Bad Is It... To let icicles hang from your roof? To burn wrapping paper in the fireplace? To use spices that are years old? And more!

32 If Your Christmas Tree Could Talk It would give you these pined-for tips and tricks.

34 What's the Difference?

Clarification on commonly confused household terms.

gift guide

39 A Very Merry Holiday

Gift Guide Don't worry about what to give this season. We did the shopping for you!

58 7 Awesome DIY Gifts

Presents you can make at home—no expert skills required.

fun decorating

65 Wow! What Color Is

That? Paint shades we love and how to use them.

71 The High/Low List We pulled together dynamic duos with drastically different price tags.

77 Try Some New Holiday Color Combos

Break out of the red-and-green rut and decorate with a fresh palette this year.



Wright idea

Easy DIY gift: Paint a pretty design on plain white napkins.

Go to page 58.

come on in!

Lots of colorful ideas put this home in the holiday spirit. See more starting on page 114.



celebrations

- 93 Holiday Hoopla From Coast to Coast** Surfing Santas, racing elves—here's how towns across the country get in the holiday spirit.

house tours

- 105 Cozy Christmas House**
Come December, this Chicago-area home reaches peak comfort and joy.
- 114 Visions of Sugarplums**
An unconventional color scheme lets this homeowner put her own sweet spin on holiday decorating.

kitchen style

- 127 Dream Kitchen on a Dime** See how a resourceful Texas couple cut costs, not corners.
- 133 Make a Cookie, Give a Cookie, Keep a Cookie**
Bake these goodies, wrap them in festive packages, and save a few for yourself.

plus...

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find our cover stories



Cover photograph by Jonny Valiant.
Styling by Matthew Gleason.



Bright idea

Bake some yummy cookies, then give them in cute packages!

Go to page 133.



Pistachio spritz tree cookies in faux-log tubes.



Candy cane cookies in a peppermint-striped cube.



Gingerbread cookies in a house-shaped gift box.



Chocolate snowflake cookies in a cozy-looking mug.





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Get Ready to Wrap, Create and Celebrate!

Looking for new ways to knock their stockings off? Visit our Gift Wrap Wonderland. You'll find the most amazing collection of stocking stuffers, wraps, ribbons, totes and more south of the North Pole. Then discover inspiration galore on our new blog, Container Stories. We'll show you easy decorating ideas, party tips, recipes and stories guaranteed to fill you with joy at containerstore.com/blog.

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the great gingerbread house challenge

HGTV Magazine vs. Food Network Magazine in a decorating showdown!



Anyone who has engaged in a Monopoly marathon during the holidays knows that some friendly competition makes the season more fun. This year the *HGTV Magazine* and *Food Network Magazine* staffs challenged each other to a gingerbread house style-off. Both teams started with the same kit (Wilton Pre-Baked Gingerbread House kit, \$10, Michaels stores) and agreed to reveal our creations at a photo shoot. Here are the results! Tell us which house you like best at hgtv.com/gingerbreadhouse. Both are impressive, but I not so secretly hope our chocolate rock walkway and fashionable fondant snowman give team *HGTV Magazine* a sweet victory.

If you're in the mood for even more sugary craziness, check out *All-Star Gingerbread Build*, which airs on HGTV and Food Network November 28 at 8 p.m. EST. On the show, HGTV's Drew Scott and Food Network's Duff Goldman compete against HGTV's Jonathan Scott and Food Network's Ron Ben-Israel to build the best life-size gingerbread house in 72 hours. And we thought a week to make our 6½-inch-tall model was intense!

Happy Holidays!
Sara
Sara Peterson
Editor in Chief





Siding: Blue royal icing
Roof: Black Jack chewing gum
Chimney: Graham crackers, gray royal icing, chocolate candy rocks
Windows: Yellow royal icing, white fondant
Shutters: Pretzel sticks, red royal icing
Front door: Red fondant
Doorknob: Gold dragée
House numbers: Edible sprinkles, edible gold paint
Wreath: Green fondant, mini jawbreakers
Walkway: Gray royal icing, chocolate candy rocks
Icicles: White royal icing
Trees: Ice-cream sugar cones, green royal icing, confectioners' sugar
Snow: White sanding sugar
Mailbox: Gingerbread pieces, white royal icing, a pretzel stick
Snowman: White, pink, orange, and green fondant; Nerds candy painted with edible black paint



Siding: Strawberry sour belt candy
Roof: Chocolate nonpareils
Chimney: Wafer cookies, white frosting, black frosting, Twizzlers Nibs
Windows: Melted butterscotch candy, black royal icing
Front door: Black licorice
Doorknob: Cocoa Puffs cereal, edible glitter
Wreath: Candy melts, Shredded Wheat cereal, red nonpareils
Walkway: Cocoa Pebbles cereal
Icicles: Melted crystal mints
Trees: Ice-cream sugar cones, green candy melts, Shredded Wheat cereal, confectioners' sugar
Snow: Confectioners' sugar
Logs: Pretzel sticks



holidays are better with  and 



#betterwithmms

cover star



DIY it!

felt garland

Use a sewing needle to thread embroidery floss through the center of felt balls in various sizes.

FELT BALLS 1-cm-to-2-cm-wide wool felt balls in aqua, from \$0.15 each, tadaastudio.com

copy our cover

Decked-out mini trees, a felt pom-pom garland, and playful, patterned stockings make a mantel merry.



ornaments Glass ball ornaments, from \$21 for a set of 12 (multiple sizes and colors available), christmascentral.com; (bell) Early Years 3½"-tall glass ornaments, \$17.50 for a mixed set of 4, kurtadler.com for stores



candlesticks

(from left) littala Nappula 7½"H x 3½"-diameter brass candlestick in gold finish, \$80, macys.com; Cursive 7"W x 5"D x 11½"H metal candlestick, \$32, anthropologie.com; Illuminaria Ori stainless steel candlesticks in gold finish, \$107 for a mixed set of 3 (small is 10"H x 3½"-diameter), allmodern.com



birds

(clockwise from top) Urban Trends Undetailed 6"W x 3½"D x 4¼"H ceramic bird figurines, \$44 for a set of 2, wayfair.com; Urban Trends 7"W x 4½"D x 4½"H ceramic bird figurine, \$40, overstock.com; 2½" x 4" resin bird figurine with wire feet, \$6, creativecoop.com for stores



DIY it! felt stockings

1. Go to hgvtv.com/diy-sockings to download the templates for these designs. Print and cut out the template for the stocking you want to make. **2.** Pin the template to a piece of felt, and cut out the shape. Repeat so you have two stocking shapes. Sew them together, leaving the top open. **3.** Back pieces of felt in colors that match the design you chose with iron-on fusing, following the package instructions. Using the template as a guide, cut out shapes from the felt. **4.** Arrange the shapes on the stocking, then iron them on, following the fusing package's instructions. **5.** Cut a piece of felt for the loop, and sew it to the inside of the stocking.

FELT Wool felt, \$9.50 per yard, tadaastudio.com **IRON-ON FUSING** 805 Wonder-Under fusible webbing, \$3 per yard, joann.com

Pier1^{IMPORTS}TM

Copy our COVER

Tradition is everything this time of year, and we want to be part of yours. For most of us, it starts around the tree—where traditional ornaments mingle with one-of-a-kind adornments. Nature-inspired, handcrafted décor brings outdoor winter romance inside, while festive gift wrap lets you personalize a gift even more. From fragrance and lighting to trees and their trimmings, Pier 1 has everything you need to create a unique and memorable holiday. Let's get started.



Top Hat Tree Topper

Our playful, handcrafted top hat will be right at home atop your tree.



Layered Wood Deer Stocking Holder

Rustic meets modern in our one-of-a-kind stocking holder, carved by hand from solid pine.



Woven Tree Collar with Ribbon

The traditional tree skirt gets a makeover with our hand-painted woven rattan tree collar.



Birch Tree LED

Birch-inspired LED candles with automatic timers are a no-fuss way to bring the outdoors in.

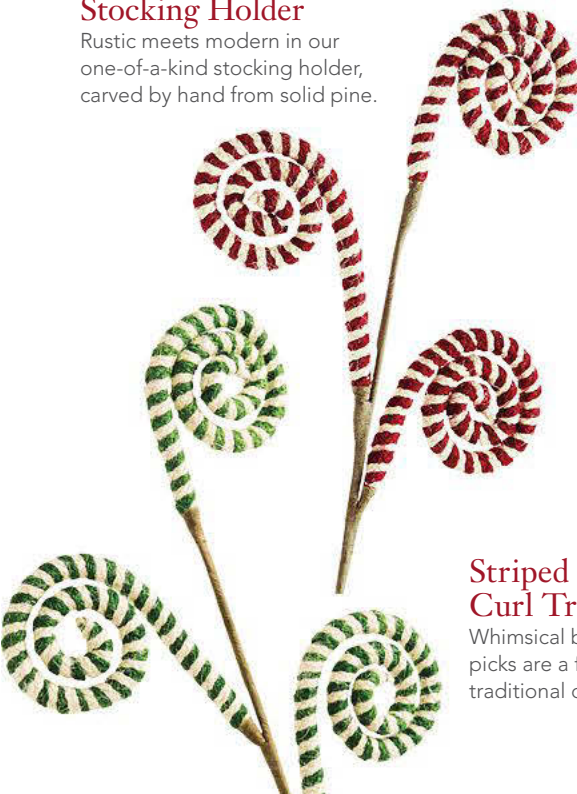
Pre-Lit Artificial Cashmere Full Tree

Assemble your tree in mere minutes with our new self-shaping Christmas trees. Pulled straight from the box, naturalistic branches and needles retain their memory right down to the tips. And miraculously, pole-to-pole electrical means that a single plug turns on the lights.



Striped Rope Curl Tree Picks

Whimsical burlap tree picks are a fun twist on traditional ornaments.



ADVERTISEMENT



Pinecone Garland

Our handcrafted pinecone garland adds a rustic touch to rails, doors and mantels.



Preserved Boxwood Wreath

Our handcrafted, all-natural wreath makes a low-maintenance yet festive addition to any entryway.



Rocking Horse Ornament

Our handcrafted, vintage-style ornament makes a great collectible—for you and your friends.



Vintage Chic Tall Chalkboard

List the daily "to-dos" or leave a message for Santa on an oversized chalkboard.



Sitting Deer Ornament

He may not have a red nose, but our handcrafted, natural deer ornament is a real head-turner.



Jingle Bell Faux Cedar Tree

Give small spaces some Christmas love with our cheerful miniature trees.



Noel Woven Wired Ribbon

Our charmingly rustic woven ribbon makes gift-wrapping fun.



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Put your favorite candles on a pedestal with our shapely, hand-painted pillar holders.



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dear **HGTV** magazine,

Readers tell us what they think and share photos of their own projects.



The Pla family's kitchen in the September issue ["White, Wood, & Wow"] was the coolest! From the cabinets to the lights, everything had a modern touch. I especially liked how pops of color throughout helped the space come together. Thumbs-up to the designer and homeowners for a truly inspiring kitchen.

—Shante Jones, Oakland, CA



Quite a few of the DIY projects in the October issue look like ones that even I, a not-so-crafty person, could do. I can't wait to "dye" a pillow cover using a marker—my favorite idea in the story "6 Things to Do With Sharpies."

—Linda Lashley, Maumee, OH

September's "Pops of Color" section was so fun! I loved how everything coordinated. If I had to pick a favorite page, it'd be the one with all the orange items. That polka-dot lamp from Safavieh Home is perfect for my crafts table.

—Susan Howard, Avon, OH



Please talk the owners of the Victorian home in October's "Copy the Curb Appeal" into letting us see the rest of their stunning house! I have a soft spot for historic homes, and you can tell the couple has put a lot of love and care into the period details. I especially love the porch and the latticework below it.

—Karen Jones, Fort Worth, TX



From our issue to your home
For years I'd only thought about fixing up my old desk. Your June story "Flea Market Flips Blowout!" showed me exactly what to do. After painting the base Roxbury Red by HGTV HOME by Sherwin-Williams, I covered the top with six colors of washi tape. I love how it turned out.

—CHERYL EICHER, LAKE FREDERICK, VA





From our issue to your home

We used to throw our dogs' leashes on a counter because the hooks I'd hung always fell. When I saw how you organized pet stuff on a pegboard [October's "Pick Up Some Pegboard"], I had an *aha* moment. My daughter helped me paint ours, complete with paw prints, and it's adorable.

—KENDALL BRASELTON, HOUMA, LA

I couldn't help but laugh when

I spotted the pumpkin-shaped casserole dishes on "The High/Low List" in the October issue. Both options would be such cute ways to cook my favorite fall dishes. Although the low option from World Market is a great match, I want to splurge on the high one from Staub.

—Alexandra Giamanco, Tampa, FL



The McCarthys' bright orange

door [May's "2 Parts Quirky, 1 Part Classic"] gave me a nudge to repaint our front door, which is also set back from the street. I went with an even brighter orange—Pimento by Behr—which matches the petunias in our flower pots.

—Cathy Hussung, Georgetown, IN

show us your look-alikes!

Send us photos of your project inspired by something you've seen in our magazine or on hgtv.com/magazine and you could be one of two people to win a \$500 prize! Go to hgtv.com/diy-lookalikes for details on how to enter.

No purchase necessary to enter or win. HGTV Magazine December 2015 OK, We're Impressed Look-Alikes Contest is sponsored by Hearst Communications, Inc. Beginning 11/17/15 at 12:01 AM (ET) and ending 12/31/15 at 11:59 PM (ET), go to hgtv.com/diy-lookalikes on a computer or wireless device and complete and submit the entry form pursuant to the on-screen instructions. Two (2) winners may each have the photo they submitted appear in a future issue of *HGTV Magazine* and will each receive a \$500 check (ARV: \$500). Must have reached the age of majority and be a legal resident of the 50 United States, the District of Columbia, or Canada (excluding Quebec). Void in Puerto Rico and where prohibited by law. Contest is subject to complete official rules available at hgtv.com/diy-lookalikes.

talk to us

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The content of all submissions (including letters and photographs) should be original and becomes property of *HGTV Magazine*, which reserves the right to republish and edit all correspondence received. By making a submission, you guarantee that you possess all necessary rights to grant the material to *HGTV Magazine*.

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- A straw

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1. Spray glitter blast onto the back of the plate. Let it dry.
2. Flip the cup over, apply clear glue to the bottom.
3. Promptly flip it back over and secure it to the center of the plate.
4. Once dry, the plate is ready to go for guests to load up with cookies and milk. Add a fun straw for drinking.

Watch a how-to video at
HGTV.com/cookieexchange.



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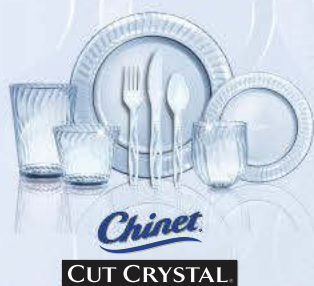
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prevented this
tragedy: plastic.

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Christmases can
be bright—with
a repair kit.

LESS STRESS *less mess*

Avoid seasonal bummers like these—
and more!—with clever holiday helpers.

Needles.
Everywhere. But
there's a solution!

help wanted



1 Elegant-looking disposable flatware

"Christmas and New Year's are when I throw my biggest parties. I love to entertain but absolutely hate to do dishes. These one-and-done forks, spoons, and knives are sturdy, posh—and gold!"

—David Bromstad, *My Lottery Dream Home*

Shiny Gold plastic flatware, \$4.50 for a set of 25 forks, spoons, or knives, fine-essentials.com



Don't manhandle that wreath! Give it some TLC with a circular bag.

2 A solution for storing wreaths

Keep your artificial wreaths in top form during the off-season with these puncture- and tear-resistant storage bags. The interior buckle strap holds a wreath snugly in place, a transparent vinyl window helps you ID the contents, and a D-ring lets you hang the bag in a closet or the garage.

48"-diameter wreath storage bag, \$60, the-cover-store.com



Addison and Noah,
Can't wait to see you for our
annual ski trip on the 27th!
Hope you're enjoying the holidays
with your new baby—we're excited
to meet her. :)
Love,
Sadie & Owen

3 Holiday cards that literally mail themselves

With this all-inclusive service, sending a card via snail mail is now fully automated. You start by emailing friends a link to the site so they can enter their home address—or just enter their addresses yourself. Then choose a card from 200-plus styles, and type in your personal greeting. Sip eggnog while the site handles everything else, from affixing the stamp to physically mailing the card.

Holiday cards, from \$2.50 each plus postage, postable.com

Customize each card with a personal message—in a font that looks handwritten!

4 A rustproof snow shovel that's nearly silent

Quietly clear your driveway and sidewalk with this commercial-grade, fiberglass-handle shovel. The sleek molded polyethylene blade glides across surfaces, making quick work of pushing even the heaviest piles of snow. Plus, it's strong enough to chop up thick patches of ice.

SnowPlow 30"-wide snow pusher, \$50, jmenterprises.com



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MYCHRONICMIGRAINE.COM

help wanted

5 A perpetual popcorn garland

Yes, it's real popcorn, and it'll hang around for years. The secret to the strand's longevity: The kernels are coated with a special preservative (the company is mum about the exact formula) to keep them fresh-looking. String it up for old-timey charm, but keep it away from kids and pets—it's for display only, not snacking.

The Original Popcorn on a String 9'-wide garland, \$15, popcorn Garland.com



7 A neat way to dispose of a tree

Dragging a dried-out Christmas tree to the curb doesn't have to mean dropped needles all through the house. This supersize bag—it can accommodate a tree up to 7 feet tall—hides under the tree skirt, then can be lifted up over the dead branches and trunk postholiday, making for a tidy disposal.

Giant Christmas tree removal bag, \$3.50, bronnens.com



6 Shatterproof plastic ornaments you'd swear are glass

"If you have a toddler racing around like I do, breakable ornaments go to the top of the tree. But these don't have to! They look delicate, but they're kid-practical—they won't shatter if they hit the floor."

—Meg Caswell, HGTV designer

Christmas ball ornaments in emerald, lime, and red, from \$15 for a set of 12 ornaments in one color, santasquarters.com



8 Battery-operated candles with no dripping wax or dangerous open flame

"I love the way the soft flickering glow mimics real candlelight and that these are solid paraffin wax. How fun is it that you can turn them on and off with a remote?"

—Tiffany Brooks, HGTV Smart Home 2016

Remote control wax flameless pillar candles, from \$19 each, and flameless candle remote control, \$7, all restorationhardware.com



9 A high-tech fix for non-twinkling lights

Twinkling incandescent lights are a once-a-year joy—that is, until a single rogue bulb blinks out. To the rescue: this do-it-all troubleshooting and fix-it device, which can repair a strand that isn't lighting up and test its tiny fuses and bulbs.

LightKeeper Pro light set repair tool, \$20, walmart.com

PROMOTION

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NEW ALCOHOL FREE

SLEEP LIKE YOU GOT UPGRADED.

**THE NON-HABIT FORMING
SLEEP-AID FROM THE
MAKERS OF NYQUIL.™
SLEEP EASILY.
SLEEP SOUNDLY.
AND WAKE REFRESHED.**

Use as directed for occasional sleeplessness. Read each label.
Keep out of reach of children. © Procter & Gamble, Inc., 2015





10 A pre-lit fake tree that would fool even Mother Nature

At 7½ feet tall, this faux fir with forest-worthy foliage could pass for the real deal. Assembly is no-fuss—the branches are hinged—and the 1,671 LED lights can alternate between clear and multicolored to coordinate with your palette.

7½'-tall Classic Fraser Fir Christmas tree, \$460, treeclassics.com



12 A portable, fits-in-your-suitcase scale

"Going over an airline's luggage weight limit is easy—and expensive because you'll pay a penalty fee. Not if you have this digital scale. Clip it to your suitcase handle, then lift the whole thing, and the device displays the weight. Genius! And it's especially helpful when I'm flying out of Canada, lugging a suitcase full of gifts from my parents. I'm not saying I'm the favorite, but Jonathan never has this problem."

—Drew Scott, *Property Brothers*

EatSmart Precision Voyager digital luggage scale, \$30, amazon.com

help wanted



11 A tape dispenser you wear on your wrist

"Hands down, this is a life changer! All the tape is precut to the same length. It speeds up the wrapping process like you wouldn't believe. There is no way I'd wrap presents for all the kids and our extended family without it."

—Joanna Gaines, *Fixer Upper*

Scotch Pop-up Tape Handband Dispenser in blue with 1 tape pad, \$2.50, officedepot.com



13 Silver polish if you hate polishing silver

"These wipes are the next best thing to having a Downton Abbey scullery maid. Just rub the tarnish a little and—poof!—it vanishes. We use them every year to polish candlesticks that were passed down from my mom."

—Vern Yip, HGTV designer

Weiman silver wipes, \$7.50 for 20 wipes, amazon.com



SLEEP LIKE A ROCK



THE NON-HABIT FORMING SLEEP-AID FROM THE MAKERS OF NYQUIL.™ SLEEP EASILY. SLEEP SOUNDLY. AND WAKE REFRESHED.

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AVAILABLE AT TARGET

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SECRETS TO A SMOOTH *Holiday* SEASON!

You're not the only one multitasking this season—with the **Rowenta Pro Master Iron**, you can do more than remove creases from your holiday clothing and linens. From the craft room to the dining room, use these tips to iron out the small details and get your home ready for a wrinkle-free holiday season.



For smaller projects, like handmade ornaments, the Rowenta Pro Master's precision tip delivers steam and pressing into hard-to-reach areas.

SEASON'S STEAMINGS

Set the table (and a seasonal mood) by transforming an ordinary napkin into a Christmas tree! Start with a crisp napkin by removing any wrinkles with a burst of steam from the **Rowenta Pro Master Iron**. As you fold, use the precision tip to create crisp points.

REPURPOSED RIBBONS

Save ribbons and gift wrap from presents you receive throughout the year. When the holidays near, **use your Rowenta iron to steam the creases and wrinkles smooth**, and your recycled ribbons will look like new!

DIY DECOR

Get crafty with iron-on decals and embroidered patches. Use them to personalize holiday stockings, table runners, and more. Even heat is key, and **Rowenta's signature Microsteam 400 soleplate**—with its thick central aluminum core—ensures success.

LIVEN UP THE LINENS

When stored for extended periods, tablecloths and napkins retain their folds. Restore them to pristine condition with a fresh press.

Tip: Iron tablecloths right on the table when using table pads or a large towel underneath.

PROFESSIONAL RESULTS

with Rowenta Pro Master. Made in Germany for more than 100 years, Rowenta irons offer the ultimate combination of unparalleled technology, uncompromised design, and ease of use, so you can get the professional results you desire. **Learn more at RowentaGarmentCare.com.**



Rowenta
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An optimal balance of breakthrough technology and advanced design, the Rowenta Pro Master features a patented 400 hole Microsteam stainless steel soleplate that provides even steam distribution. The Pro Master's powerful burst of steam removes wrinkles even on the most challenging fabrics. Get the professional results you desire with the Pro Master Steam Iron from Rowenta.

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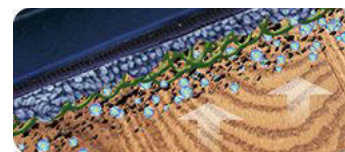


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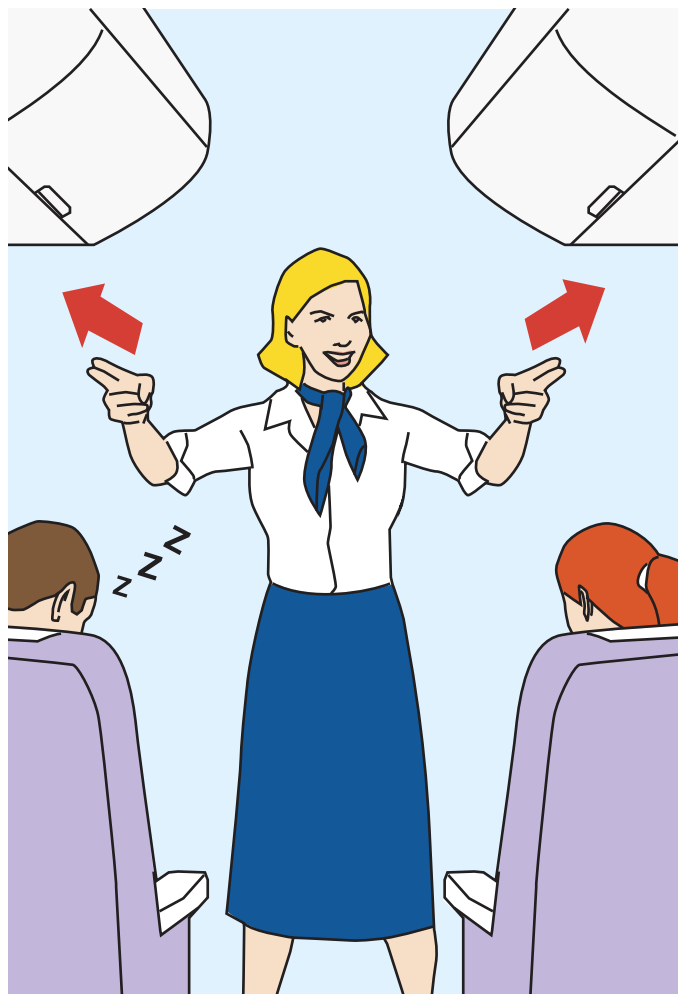
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how bad is it...

Straight answers to scratch-your-head questions.



...to ignore the preflight safety demonstration?

If you tend to tune out, you're not alone. A study by the National Transportation Safety Board found that about half of passengers pay no notice to the airline's worst-case-scenario instructions. No matter how many times you've heard the directions, always stop what you're doing and locate the emergency exits, says Todd Curtis, Ph.D., an aviation safety expert and founder of airsafe.com. It can make all the difference. Count the number of seats between you and the nearest exit so you can navigate by feel if visibility drops in the cabin.

pretty bad!

...to not insure a package you send in the mail?

If your package is valued at \$100 or less, some carriers automatically cover it. If it's worth more than \$100, "insurance is a good idea," says Mark Weber, owner of The Mail Center, a pack-and-ship store in Memphis, TN. Coverage is surprisingly affordable—about \$1 for each additional \$100 of declared value—but it isn't fail-safe. The fine print may include extra packing requirements and exclusions. Should you have to file a claim, you'll need a receipt or other proof of the item's worth, and sentimental value doesn't count. If it's damaged and you have a receipt, you can expect full reimbursement.

kinda bad!



...to let icicles hang from your roof?

As pretty as the wintry display looks, it could be a problem for your home. Icicles under a roof's eaves or on siding indicate ice dams, thick ridges of ice that usually form when heat escapes into the attic, causing snow to melt and drip down the roof before refreezing. "Ice dams block melting snow from draining and can lead to a major leak," says Steve Kuhl, owner of The Ice Dam Company, an ice-removal business in Hopkins, MN. The closer the icicles are to the walls, the more trouble. If they're very near the house, call a pro. If the icicles hang just from the roof's edge, you can leave them be.

really bad!

(if they're very close to the house or on the siding)

not so bad!

(if they're hanging off the roof's edge)

help wanted



...to send a holiday card with no personal message?

Taking the time to jot seasonal well wishes will earn you a spot on the nice list. A generic greeting (even one with a family photo) misses the point of the ritual: to connect meaningfully with loved ones. "Putting pen to paper shows you care," says etiquette expert Thomas P. Farley, a.k.a. Mister Manners. "Otherwise it feels like you're just going through the motions." Writing the recipients' names and one simple line will do. For example: "Beth and Brian, let's make plans for early in the New Year! Happy 2016. With love, Tim and Sheila." To make it even easier, limit recipients to your nearest and dearest, write the missives over a few days, and mail them out early.

kinda bad!

...to burn wrapping paper in the fireplace?

Tossing used gift paper into the hearth could send your holiday up in flames. Wrapping paper ignites rapidly and intensely, producing a blaze that could overtake your fireplace quickly. "Burned pieces of paper or flying embers can also float up the chimney and cause a chimney or house fire," says Patty Davis, a spokesperson for the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission. Another reason for alarm: The ink used in gift wrap may contain metals or chemicals that generate toxic fumes and airborne particulates. To be on the safe side, don't burn any wrapping paper in your fireplace. Save it for the recycling bin.

super bad!



...to use spices that are years old?

Unlike fine wines, spices don't get better with age. Old spices won't make you sick, but they lose their flavor and nutritional value over time. "Sooner or later it's almost like adding dust to food," says Jane Lear, coauthor of the cookbook *One Spice, Two Spice* with chef Floyd Cardoz. Spices will hold up differently depending on where you store them—they'll stay fresher in a cool, dry place than on a rack above the stove or near a window—so don't rely solely on the container's "best before" date. Buy spices in small quantities, and replace them every 12 to 18 months. Lear also advises tasting a pinch before sprinkling. "If your thyme tastes like dried lawn clippings, toss it," she says.

pretty bad!

...to wash a wool sweater in the washing machine?

Even the gentlest cycle is too rough for your favorite wool sweater. Wool fibers have microscopic scales along their surface that interlock when agitated or soaked with warm water. "At that point, the material becomes matted, shrinks, and won't stretch back into shape," says Ingrid Johnson, a professor at New York City's Fashion Institute of Technology and coauthor of *J.J. Pizzuto's Fabric Science*. Spring for dry-cleaning for a wool garment or wash it yourself by soaking it in cold water with a small amount of shampoo, then rinsing it and drying it flat.

super bad!



#MACYSANDMARTHA

Even the best gift givers need a little help. For more of Martha's great gift ideas and festive holiday tips, visit the Macy's & Martha Pinterest board.

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Advertised merchandise may not be carried at your local Macy's and selection may vary by store. 5100076.

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if your *Christmas tree* could talk

It would give you these pined-for tips and tricks.

Set me up like a pro.

After untying your tree, let its branches fall back into shape naturally. Use loppers or heavy-duty scissors to trim uneven branches, then add lights. For a super-sparkly tree, you'll need about 100 bulbs per foot of height.

Help me last the season.

A carefully placed tree—that means away from the fireplace, heating vents, and windows that get a lot of sun—should stay lush for a month if you keep it watered. But don't bother adding aspirin, bleach, soda, or anything else to its H₂O. Despite what you may have heard, they won't prolong a tree's life.

I'd hate to drop the ball....

Before decking the tree with ornaments, make sure it can support their weight. The stiff branches of blue spruces, Fraser firs, and noble firs hold up better than the fluffy ones on Douglas firs and grand firs. The latter has one of the strongest Christmas tree scents.

I make good mulch.

In addition to collecting them for recycling, many areas hold events where trees are run through a chipper to make mulch for parks or your yard. Before hauling over your tree, break off some branches for your compost pile.

My stand is not a water bowl.

Bacteria in tree water can upset your pet's stomach. To keep a dog or a cat from lapping it up, buy a stand with an enclosed water reservoir (Krinner makes a good one) or block the stand with wrapped gifts.

I'm thirsty!

Trees need water to stay fresh, and their drinking patterns vary. A newly cut tree will guzzle more than a gallon in the first 48 hours, but a tree from a lot might not soak up much until you've had it for a few days. Make sure the bottom few inches of the stump are submerged at all times.

OUR EXPERTS: Bert Cregg, Ph.D., associate professor at Michigan State University; Rick Dungey, executive director at the National Christmas Tree Association; Ange Niestuchowski, interiorscape and holiday decorating manager at David J. Frank Landscape Contracting, Inc., in Germantown, WI; Jill O'Donnell, senior educator at Michigan State University Extension



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what's the difference

Finally! Clarification on some commonly confused household terms.



pine tree VS. spruce tree

A **pine tree** is more fragrant and has needles that are longer, less stiff, and connected to branches in groups of five, making for a fluffier-looking tree.

A **spruce tree** has needles that are shorter, thicker, and individually attached to its branches. This makes the tree a sturdier choice for hanging ornaments.



wax paper VS. parchment paper

Wax paper is a light paper coated with wax on each side to keep food from sticking. It's not oven-safe, so use it for food storage and protecting surfaces during prep time.

Parchment paper, made from wood fibers, is naturally nonstick. It's oven-safe—up to about 400° F—so it's great for lining a cookie sheet or a roasting pan.



blanket VS. throw

Blankets are meant to fully cover a bed, so they come in sizes ranging from twin to king. You can find them in a wide variety of materials, including wool and fleece.

Throws are small blankets, about 50 inches by 70 inches, meant to be displayed and used only occasionally. Drape one over a couch, on a chair, or at the foot of a bed.



sled VS. sleigh

A **sled** is a small self-propelled vehicle made of plastic or metal and wood. It's used to slide down a hill or across snow and ice.

A **sleigh** has more traditional seating and was once used as a mode of transportation. It's pulled over snow and ice by a horse (or, in Santa's case, reindeer!).



OUR EXPERTS: Michelle Flood, marketing director at Reynolds Baking Paper & Plastic; Rick Hitzemann, owner of Mountain Boy Sledworks; Chuck Schmitt, former senior resource educator at Cornell Cooperative Extension; Justin Sonfield, general merchandise manager at The Company Store


Happy Holidays

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ALL NEW STARTING DECEMBER 1

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TUESDAYS 9|8c

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Chip & Jo



SHARE

A bottle of Mirassou with the beautiful sun on the label makes a great holiday gift! Simply tie a ribbon and gift tag around the bottle neck and share.



PAIR

Set pairings on a stylish tray and bring the party to your guests. Brie and nuts are delicious with Chardonnay and Gruyère is a great complement to Pinot Noir.



FLARE

Use gold accents to add some warmth to your décor, such as gold candles and ornaments—or make your own by spray-painting pine cones.

SHARE THE SUN

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holiday occasion.*



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A VERY MERRY

I love it!

Ooh! Aah!

It's perfect!

Amazing!



HOLIDAY

gift

GUIDE

Don't stress over what
to give this season.
We did the shopping for you!

trays + candles



VERN'S PICK



12½" x 18½"
bamboo tray
in rockingham, \$50,
sunnylife.com



Woodland
14" x 14" lacquer
tray, \$49, rockflower
paper.com



Regalia 13¾" x 18¾"
polypropylene tray in gold,
\$25, pier1.com



Patterned Print
13" x 19" wood tray in
navy, \$15, christmastree
shops.com



Snow Drop 9.5-ounce
soy candle in winter
vanilla scent, \$25,
soapandpaperfactory.com



Gilt 8-ounce soy candle in
pomegranate cassis scent,
\$19, paddywax.com



Cheer Diamond-Cut 10-ounce
soy candle in frankincense
ginger scent, \$28.50,
capribluecandles.com



Venetian Fall 14.5-ounce
soy candle in fig scent, \$28,
thompsonferrier.com



Double-Banded Gold Color-
Block 12-ounce soy candle
in lemongrass scent, \$48,
robertsiegelstudio.com



Orla Kiely 7-ounce vegetal
candle in Earl Grey scent,
\$38, nordstrom.com

*"A girl can always have
more diamonds"*

- Elizabeth Taylor

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WHITE DIAMONDS

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mugs + tea towels



Jansen + Co. My Art Mug
Andy stoneware mug, \$24,
neo-utility.com



Threshold Sweater
stoneware mug with
acrylic sweater in
white and gray, \$5,
target.com



Danica Studio Retreat
porcelain mug, \$8,
nowdesigns.net for stores



Kate Spade New York All
in Good Taste stoneware
mugs, \$40 for a mixed set
of 4, macys.com



Malachite Carnaby porcelain
mug in purple, \$18,
jonathanadler.com



Llama cotton tea towels,
\$20 for a set of 2,
papersource.com



Tails cotton tea towel, \$24,
elizabethgrubaugh.com



MEG'S
PICK



Snowflake cotton tea towel,
\$18, dishragstudio.etsy.com

Rosa Reindeer cotton
tea towel, \$26,
betsyolmsted.com

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be more tea

Lipton Pure Green tea is delicately blended from freshly picked, young leaves for a naturally light and fresh taste. Add a little uplift to your day.



taste good, feel good

pitchers + glasses



Glacial Ridge 112-ounce glass pitcher, \$36, anthropologie.com



Certified International Tequila Sunrise 88-ounce ceramic pitcher, \$56, kohls.com



The Pioneer Woman Flea Market 64-ounce stoneware pitcher, \$13, walmart.com



Mario Luca Giusti Palla Smalto 101.5-ounce acrylic pitcher in fuchsia, \$68, michaelcfina.com



Helice 64-ounce stoneware pitcher, \$84, jerseypottery.com



Tartan Red 15-ounce glass, \$8, pier1.com



Asteria 16-ounce glasses in gold, \$40 for a set of 4, zgallerie.com



Nutcracker 12-ounce glasses, \$20 for a mixed set of 4, crateandbarrel.com



Artland Polka Dot 20-ounce glasses, \$27 for a mixed set of 4, wayfair.com



Zafferano Perle 10.8-ounce glass in blue, \$25, gracioushome.com



JOSH'S PICK

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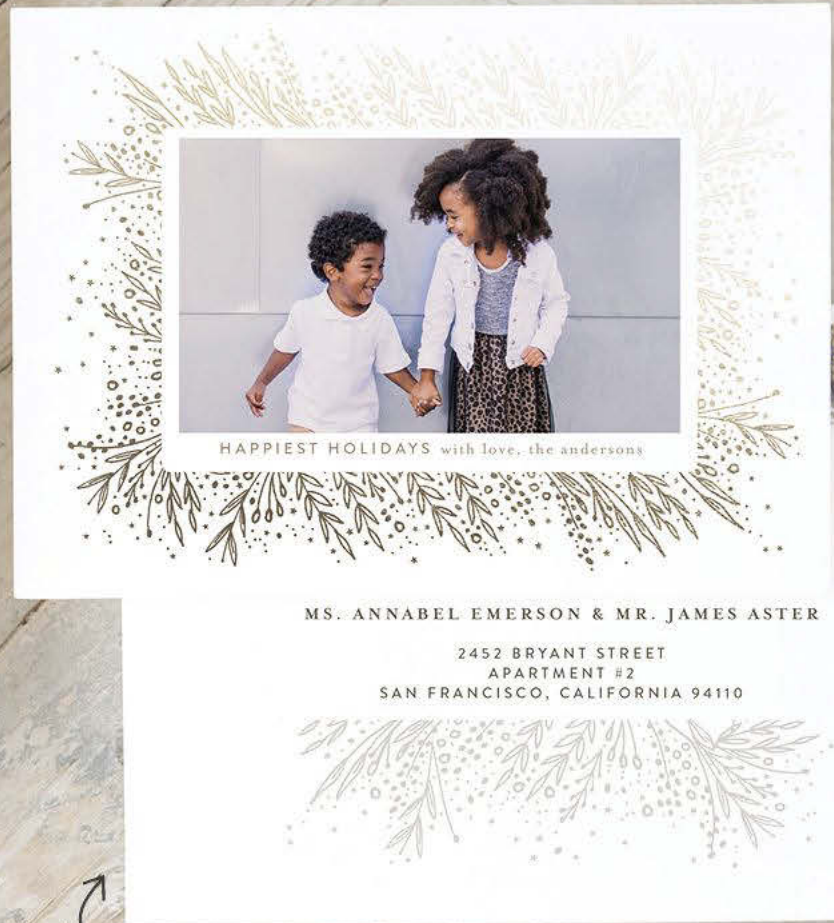


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4" x 6" bone frame, \$60,
blisshomeanddesign.com



Loft Houndstooth
5" x 7" bone frame,
\$60, shiraleah.com



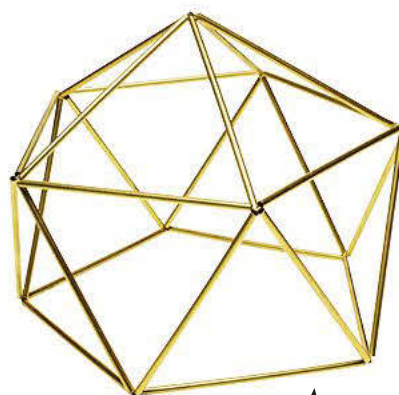
Shiraleah Boheme Blue
Tie-Dye 4" x 6" bone frame,
\$42, purehome.com



Congo 4" x 6" wood and
bone frame in green, \$50,
melaartisans.com



Urban Trends Owl 10½"-
tall ceramic figurine in
green, \$49, wayfair.com



Dome 6"-tall brass
figurine, \$34,
meandshe
studios.com



Dala Horse 8"-tall
polyresin figurine in red,
\$49, sockerbit.com



JOHN'S
PICK



Standing Fox Looking
Up 7¾"-tall ceramic
figurine in silver, \$49,
allmodern.com



Mirrored Star 6"-tall
metal figurine, \$39,
westelm.com

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westelm.com



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crystal bowl, \$79,
badashcrystal.com



3"H x 9¼"-diameter
ceramic bowl in grass
green, \$49, owlcreek
ceramics.com



Modern Neon 3¼"H x 7"-diameter
wood bowl in neon pink and sea
foam, \$54, nicoleporter.com



ALISON'S
PICK



Rwandan Berry
Dancer 4"H x
12"-diameter raffia
and sweetgrass
basket, \$58,
allacrossafrica.org



Castilian Country
4¾"H x 10"-diameter
metal bowl, \$50,
dotandbo.com



3"H x 6"-diameter
ceramic bowls, \$50
for a mixed set of 5,
furbishstudio.com



Lazy Susan Perforated 5½"H x
12"-diameter porcelain bowl,
\$107.50, shopcandelabra.com



SOMETHING
Sweet ^{TO} *delight*



SOMETHING
!! **SPICY** ^{TO} **EXCITE** !!



Something
BOLD ^{TO} **SATISFY**



totes + pouches



Tamarindo 12 1/4" x 18"
cotton and nylon tote, \$85,
stephaniejohnson.com



Circle 16" x 26" cotton
canvas tote in pod blue, \$78,
seedesignshop.com



Candie's Mindy 17 1/2" x 17 1/4"
faux-leather tote in rose
gold, \$50, kohls.com



TIFFANY'S
PICK



Echo 14" x 18" cotton
canvas tote in tangerine,
\$52, maikagoods.com



Bunglo Mudras 6" x 9" cotton
pouch, \$28, sistergolden.com



Merona 5 3/4" x 8"
leather pouch in silver,
\$40, target.com

Jewel Petal 6" x 9"
wool and polyester
pouch in yellow, \$50,
anthropologie.com



Tonala Marble
4" x 6" leather pouch
in creamsicle, \$52,
scoutandcatalogue.com

Spotted 6" x 9"
cowhide pouch, \$75,
primecutbags.com



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gift guide



Wink Face 13"-diameter polyester pillow, \$25, emojistuff.com



KidKraft Play 43"W x 43"D x 69½"H bamboo and cotton canvas teepee in turquoise, \$92, wayfair.com



Magna-Tiles Clear Colors plastic building set, \$100 for a 74-piece set, target.com



Roller Derby Retro 32"-long wood skateboard in blue tint, \$60, overstock.com



Colored pencils and burlap sleeve, \$10 for an 18-piece set, T.J.Maxx stores



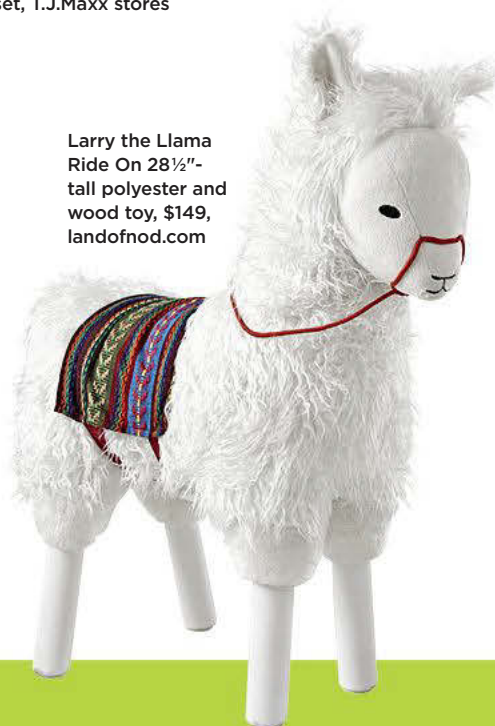
JOANNA'S PICK



Låtsas polyester shopping basket toys, \$10 for an 11-piece set, ikea.com

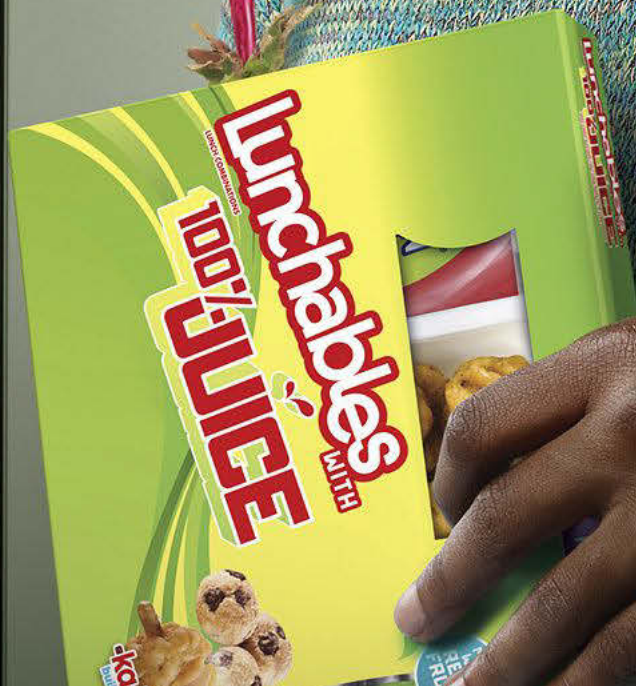


Amplitone fabric and plastic headphones in turquoise, \$30, crosleystation.com



Larry the Llama Ride On 28½"-tall polyester and wood toy, \$149, landofnod.com

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lunchables.com

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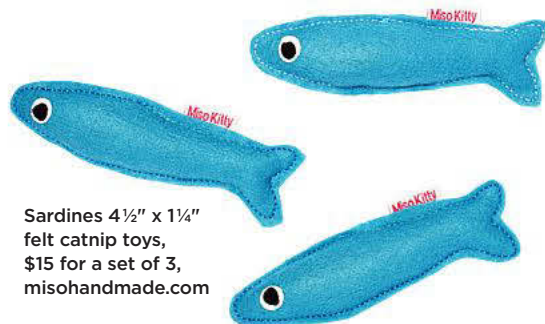
Jingle Bell Snowman
4½" x 2½" cotton
toy in red, \$8,
cherrywillow
.etsy.com



Fringe Studio Andy 9½"H x
8¾"-diameter tin canister,
\$20, republicofpaws.com



2½"H x 7"-diameter
melamine and
stainless steel pet
bowl in glamo, \$20,
frenchbull.com



Sardines 4½" x 1¼"
felt catnip toys,
\$15 for a set of 3,
misohandmade.com



3"H x 17"-diameter cardboard and cotton
scratch pads, \$40 each, kittyjones.com



Multipet Polka-Dot Bone
8" x 3" latex toys, \$4 each,
overstock.com



Adjustable rope leash
in prismatic, \$64,
foundmyanimal.com



DAVID'S
PICK



Slipper 11½" x 4½"
cotton and fleece
toy in plaid, \$14,
harrybarker.com



Pendleton Pet by Carolina Pet National Park 36" x 48"
fleece pet bed in Glacier Park, \$169, pendleton-usa.com



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gift guide



Amoeba 4"-diameter porcelain and 24-karat-gold coasters, \$79 for a mixed set of 4, jonathanadler.com



JONATHAN'S PICK

Playing cards, \$13, fredericksandmae.com



Victorinox Swiss Army 2½"-long pocket knife in star light star bright, \$24, swissknifeshop.com



Birch Floral iPhone 6/6S case, \$36, riflepaperco.com



Antique brass 6½' mini measuring tape, \$18, mackenzie-childs.com



Monogrammed leather tassel key chain in orange, \$49, markandgraham.com



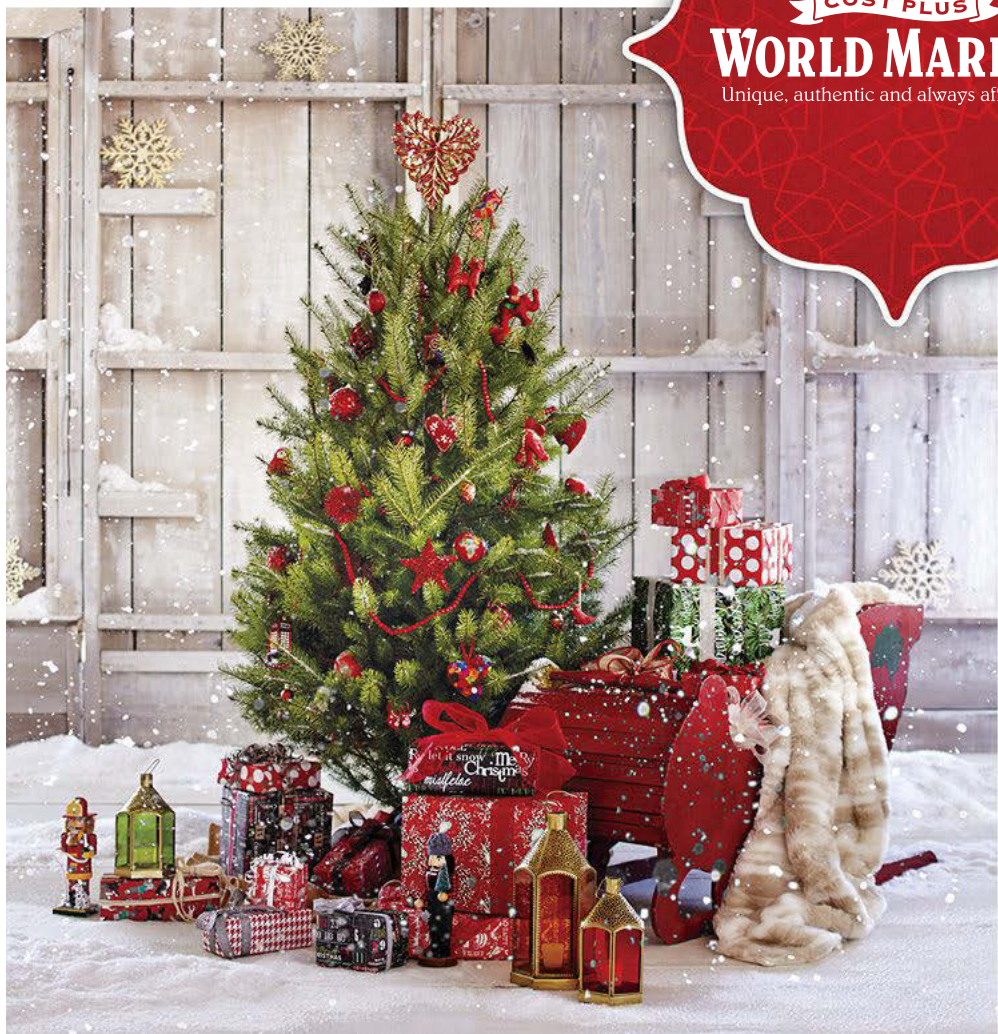
Signature polyester umbrella in stripes, \$22, totes.com



Tag Vintage Christmas Bike coir doormat, \$34, hayneedle.com



Nail polishes in, from left, Ruby Red Slippers, \$20, and Lady Is a Tramp, \$18, both deborahlippmann.com



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7 AWESOME DIY gifts

Make these pretty presents yourself—it doesn't get more thoughtful than that!

dip-dyed gloves

1. Soak gloves in warm water, then squeeze them out.
2. Make a bath with a light-color liquid fabric dye following the package instructions. Dip in both gloves halfway at the same time for 30 to 40 seconds. Pull out the gloves, squeeze them out, and set them aside on plastic wrap.
3. Make a second bath using a darker-color dye. Dip the gloves about a third of the way this time, again for 30 to 40 seconds. Squeeze them out.
4. Stack the gloves, wrap them in the plastic wrap, and microwave them on high for 30 seconds. Let the gloves

cool, then remove them from the microwave. Let them sit for 30 minutes to an hour. Remove the plastic wrap.

5. Rinse the gloves under cool water until the water runs clear. Lay flat to dry.

GLOVES K3140 lambswool and angora knit gloves in vanilla, \$24 per pair, carolinaamato.com **DYE** Rit liquid dye in rose pink and fuchsia, \$4.50 each for 8 ounces, joann.com



rope bracelets

1. Wrap two pieces of masking tape around polypropylene rope about 8 inches apart. Center a utility knife over each piece of tape, and slice through the tape and the rope.

2. Wrap Chinese knotting cord around the resulting piece of rope, and secure with hot glue.

3. Use a strong glue like E6000 to adhere a jewelry end cap over the tape at each end of the rope. Let dry, then attach a jump ring to each end cap and attach a clasp.

ROPE $\frac{3}{8}$ "-thick polypropylene rope in hot pink and aqua, \$8 each for 50 feet, atwoodrope.net **CORD** Tangles 'N Knots 1-mm-thick and 1.4-mm-thick Chinese knotting cord in assorted colors, \$3.50 each for 10 yards, purlsoho.com **HARDWARE** Dazzle-It! Kumihimo 10-mm-diameter findings kits in gold, \$3 each, and Darice 14-mm-long swivel lobster clasps in gold, \$2 for a set of 4, both consumercrafts.com



photo coasters

1. Using a photo-editing program, resize photos so each one measures 4 inches wide by 3½ inches tall, then add a black border. (We used Instagram and Photoshop.)

2. Print the photos on temporary tattoo paper, following the package instructions, and cut them out.

3. Following the package instructions, transfer the photos onto 4-inch-square ceramic tiles.

4. Place self-stick felt circles on the back corners of each tile.

TATTOO PAPER Laser 8½" x 11" clear water slide decal paper, \$23 for 25 sheets, decalpaper.com





map luggage tags

1. Go to hgtv.com/diy-luggage-tags to download the templates. Print them and cut them out.
2. Scan a large section of map-print wrapping paper onto your computer. Print it onto T-shirt transfer paper made for dark fabric.
3. Iron the transfer paper's map image onto a piece of light-color leather. Trace the tag's templates onto the leather, then cut them out and glue them together according to the templates' instructions.
4. Create a plastic insert and an address label according to the templates' instructions. Slide them inside the tag. Thread leather cord through the hole at the top of the tag, and knot.

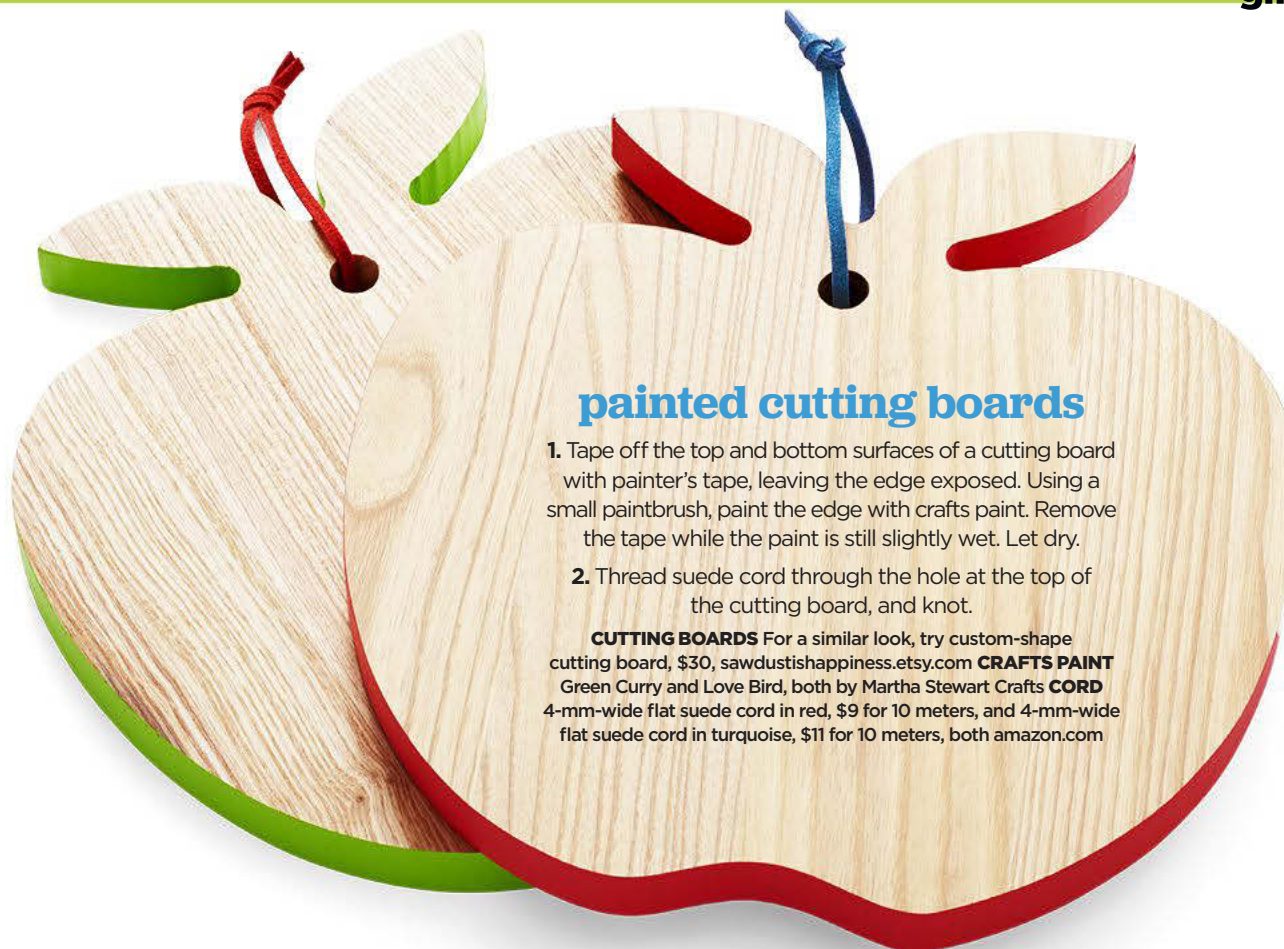
WRAPPING PAPER Cavallini & Co. Vintage Map Wrap Pack, \$13 for 4 20" x 30" wrapping paper sheets and supplies, amazon.com **LEATHER** Veg tanned-leather remnants pack, \$10 for 8 ounces, tandyleather.com **CORD** 3-mm-wide flat leather cord in yellow, \$5.50 for 5 yards, cloudcrofttrading.etsy.com

color-palette napkins

1. Mix chalk paint with fabric medium following the directions on the fabric medium's label (this will make the paint machine-washable). Using a small paintbrush, paint swatches on a cloth napkin, spacing them evenly apart. Let dry.
2. Iron the underside of the napkin to help the paint set.

CHALK PAINT Assorted colors by Annie Sloan Chalk Paint **FABRIC MEDIUM** Martha Stewart Crafts fabric medium, \$7 for 6 ounces, amazon.com





painted cutting boards

1. Tape off the top and bottom surfaces of a cutting board with painter's tape, leaving the edge exposed. Using a small paintbrush, paint the edge with crafts paint. Remove the tape while the paint is still slightly wet. Let dry.
2. Thread suede cord through the hole at the top of the cutting board, and knot.

CUTTING BOARDS For a similar look, try custom-shape cutting board, \$30, sawdustishappiness.etsy.com **CRAFTS PAINT** Green Curry and Love Bird, both by Martha Stewart Crafts **CORD** 4-mm-wide flat suede cord in red, \$9 for 10 meters, and 4-mm-wide flat suede cord in turquoise, \$11 for 10 meters, both amazon.com



decoupaged jewelry box

1. Trace the top of a box onto the back of a piece of decorative paper, and cut out the shape. Adhere the cutout to the box's top with decoupage medium.
2. Cut a second piece of paper to the height of the box and the lid plus $\frac{1}{4}$ inch and long enough to wrap around it. Adhere it to the sides of the box and the lid, wrapping the excess around the bottom of the box. (You'll be sealing the box closed, but you'll cut the lid apart from the bottom later.)
3. Coat the entire box with a thin layer of decoupage medium. Let dry.
4. Use a crafts knife to slice the paper between the lid and the box so it can open. Apply another coat of decoupage medium to the entire box. Let dry.

BOX Hexagon-shaped 6½"W x 5½"D x 3¼"H unfinished pine box, \$4.50, joann.com **DECORATIVE PAPER** Pirouette Marbled 24" x 36" paper in turquoise, apricot, and raspberry, \$7 per sheet, papermojo.com **DECOUPAGE MEDIUM** Martha Stewart Crafts decoupage in gloss finish, \$10 for 8 ounces, michaels.com

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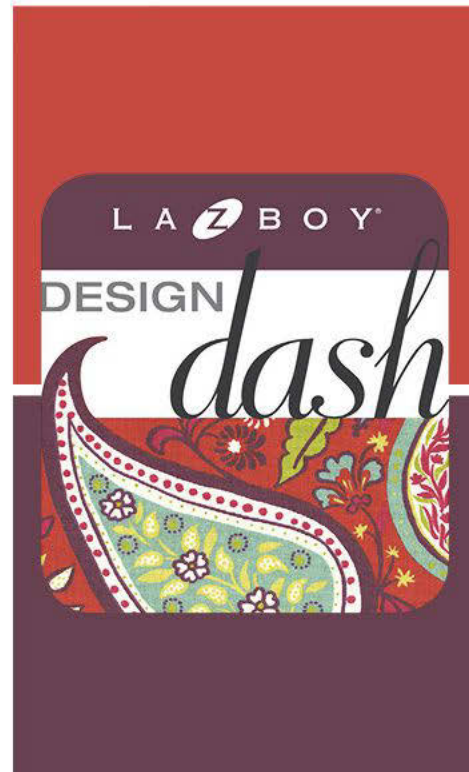
*Terms and conditions apply.

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fun decorating

Wow!

what color is that?

These paint shades stopped us in our tracks.
We asked the designers to spill their secret sources.

glitterati

BY BEHR

"This dazzling fuchsia paneling reminds me of an Old Hollywood theater. It's so glamorous, especially for a family room. The red leather sofa and graphic pillows match the hue's gutsiness."

—Jenny Tamplin, Jenny Tamplin Interiors, College Station, TX



fun decorating



egg yolk yellow

BY KELLY-MOORE

"A farm-fresh breakfast inspired me to paint this bathroom country yellow. The yolky color is a natural with the creamy white pedestal sink and the polished nickel faucet."

—Kathy Marshall,
K. Marshall Design Inc., Wenham, MA



peppermint

BY C2 PAINT

"Minty blue-green cabinets aren't for the timid. When I suggested it for the kitchen in this 1920s bungalow, the homeowners had to take a leap of faith. They were so glad they did! The key was adding plenty of white and stainless steel to temper the color."

—Mark Williams, Mark Williams Design Associates, Atlanta, GA

rejuvenate

BY SHERWIN-WILLIAMS

"You say orange; I say coral. This in-between shade is hard to pin down. It's not too acidic or bright, so it plays nicely with the other colors in this nursery. And it has a sophistication that will last through the growing-up years."

—Joanna Gick, J & J Design Group,
Scottsdale, AZ





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fun decorating



phillips green

BY CALIFORNIA PAINTS

"Some of my skeptical friends warned me against this tropical teal—wouldn't it be out of place in a New England home? But vivid jewel tones were all the rage in the late 1800s, when our house was built. It's a historical color, and it packs the room with high-wattage energy."

—Katrina Maestri, homeowner, Manchester, MA



iron ore

BY SHERWIN-WILLIAMS

"It was such a fun challenge to decorate around a shiny red washer and dryer. This smoky gray pulled together the appliances and the woody wallpaper with ease."

—Heather Garrett,
Heather Garrett Interior Design,
Durham, NC

burning bush

BY OLYMPIC

"If any paint color says 'Come sit by the fire,' it's this red. It has a warm, nostalgic quality that's great for a brick fireplace. I love how it pops against the white walls and built-in benches."

—Tim Braseth, ArtCraft Homes,
Los Angeles, CA



**Show us how
you use your
favorite color!**

Send a photo to
hgtvmagazine@hearst.com
and it could be featured
in an upcoming issue!

CAN A BAG FULFILL A DREAM?
MINE CAN.



I'm Ariane, mama and founder of HATCH, a collection of essentials for before, during, and after pregnancy. I believe that every mother and baby should have the opportunity to thrive, and this is my way of making that a reality.

Follow my lead. FEED.

Ariane Goldman Founder and CEO, HATCH, and her daughter Georgie

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Shown: Legends® Luxury Geneva Comforter
Exclusively at thecompanystore.com.

the high / low list

We pulled together some dynamic duos with drastically different price tags.



\$775

Major moment in a living room: This lamp is 33½ inches tall.

Jamie Young Plum Jar glass lamp in blue with shade, bellacor.com



\$189

There's a round finial on this shorter version.

Stein World Ariga 28¼"-tall glass lamp with shade, nationalfurnituresupply.com



\$4,998

Made in Virginia, this pick comes in more than 300 fabric and color options.

Holden 114"-wide wool-blend sectional in Cambridge red, roomandboard.com



\$1,899

Tight seat cushions give this near-identical sectional a sleek look.

Derby Cinnamon 112"-wide polyester sectional, bryght.com



\$957

A hand-tufted rug inspired by Spanish architecture.

Granada 5' x 8' wool rug in navy, capelrugs.com for stores



\$349

A similar exotic motif in worry-free polypropylene.

Feizy Gustavia Capri 5' x 8' rug, houzz.com

fun decorating

\$1,206

A dining room stunner straight from the famed glassmakers of Venice.

20¼"H x 27¾"-diameter glass 6-light chandelier in green, muranoglass-shop.com



\$894

Not as many lights, but check out the extra curlicues and teardrops.

Prospetto Light Felicità 23"H x 22"-diameter glass 5-light chandelier in light green, atgstores.com



\$2,695

Two separate cabinets and four drawers mean oodles of storage for serving supplies.

Marks 70¾"W x 17¾"D x 33¾"H
mindy hardwood sideboard, jaysonhome.com



\$1,499

Sliding cabinet doors, cord cutouts in the back—it's a family room essential.

Mid-Century 80"W x 19"D x 27"H acacia and eucalyptus console in acorn, westelm.com

\$75

A fox cookie jar is a sly spot for stashing sweets.

Fox 11" x 9½" ceramic cookie jar, atwestend.com



\$13

This guy is slightly smaller but equally adorable.

Fox 10½" x 7¼" ceramic cookie jar, worldmarket.com



\$1,719

Delicate hand-applied silver leaf covers each quatrefoil.

Tracery 48"-diameter glass and metal dining table, ethanallen.com

\$610

There's a larger glass top on this one's gilded base.

Carnaby Modern Lux 54"-diameter glass and metal dining table, lampsplus.com





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could fill a room.



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fun decorating

\$70

An electroplated finish gives it that glossy-and-glam sheen.

15¾"W x 7¾"D x 17¾"H resin deer head in silver, zgallerie.com



\$40

A fun decorative accessory at a price that's not too dear.

12"W x 6"D x 16"H resin deer head in silver, bedbathandbeyond.com



\$423

Appliquéd cotton drops trickle down this large, luxe pillow.

Global Views
Julia Buckingham
Raindrop 20" x 20"
polyester pillow,
shopcandelabra.com

\$39

A pattern printed directly on this pillow knocks the cost way down.

Khristian A
Howell Candy
Chandelier 16" x 16"
polyester pillow,
denydesigns.com



\$70

It's oven- and dishwasher-safe—just unscrew each tier to separate.

Fiesta 13¼"W x 10¾"D x 13½"H china
3-tier serving stand in
lemongrass, homerlaughlin.com



\$22

Picture this filled with holiday treats on your dining table.

Baum Party Time
17"H x 12"-diameter
glass 3-tier stand,
wayfair.com



\$399

Antiqued brass hardware accents this mahogany campaign table.

Devon 26½"W x 20½"D x 28"H table,
potterybarn.com

\$133

Lightweight poplar construction makes the bill less hefty, too.

Inspire Q Kenton
24"W x 18"D x 27"H
table, overstock.com



fun decorating

try some new
holiday
COLOR
combos

Break out of the red-and-green rut and decorate with one of these palettes this season.



PHOTOGRAPHS BY
EMILY KATE ROEMER
STYLED BY
MATTHEW GLEASON



ORNAMENTS

Top 3½"H x 3"-diameter glass ornaments, \$28 for a set of 2, neimanmarcus.com



CLOCK

Filiskun Christmas Wonderland 10"-diameter wood clock, \$30, society6.com



GARLAND

Jelly Bean Pom-poms 9'1"-wide wool felt garland, \$33, novica.com



STOCKING

Scattered Flowers wool felt stocking, \$79, arcadiahomeinc.com

color combo #1



red
turquoise
pink



ORNAMENT

Rebuilding Together 3½"W x 6"D x 3¼"H wood ornament, \$10, crateandbarrel.com



JELLY BEANS IN A JAR

Dress My Cupcake Couture 13¼"H x 5¼"-diameter glass apothecary jars, \$40 for a mixed set of 3, koyalwholesale.com; Jelly Belly jelly beans, candywarehouse.com



TREES

Threshold mercury glass trees, from \$15 each (small is 8"H x 4½"-diameter), target.com



TREE TOPPER

Queens of Christmas 8 Point 16"-tall tree topper, \$26.50, wayfair.com

fun decorating

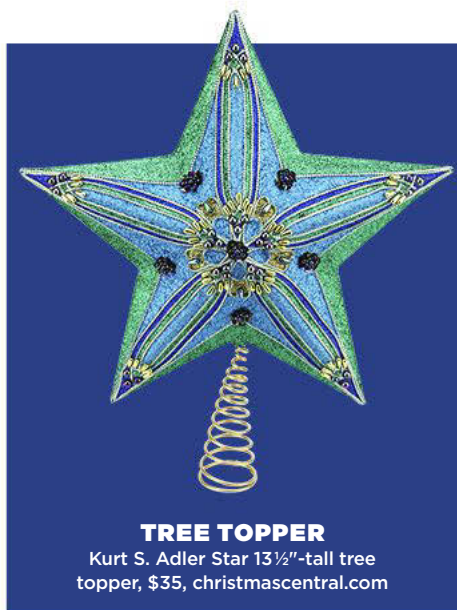
This star tag is actually a tree ornament.

Try strands of satin cord rather than ribbon, then add a candy cane instead of a bow.





STOCKING
Cotton
stocking, \$75,
onekingslane.com



TREE TOPPER
Kurt S. Adler Star 13½"-tall tree
topper, \$35, christmascentral.com



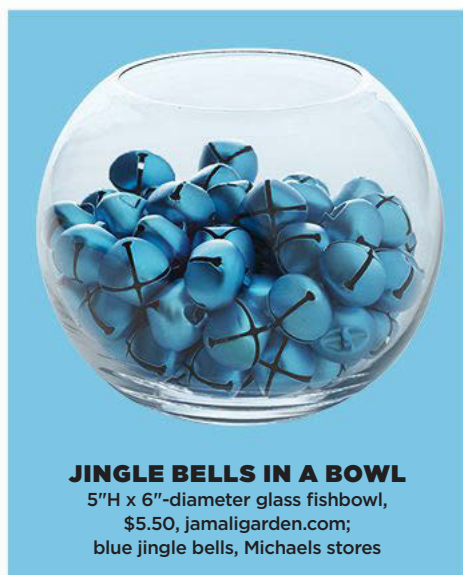
GARLAND
This Garland
Is Shaping Up
8'-wide wool
felt garland,
landofnod.com



ORNAMENTS
Opal-Blue Stripe 2½"-diameter
glass ornaments, \$35 for a set
of 3, neimanmarcus.com



TREES
Resin trees, \$66 for a mixed set of
2 (small is 20½"H x 6¼"-diameter),
creativecoop.com for stores



JINGLE BELLS IN A BOWL
5"H x 6"-diameter glass fishbowl,
\$5.50, jamaligarden.com;
blue jingle bells, Michaels stores



DOORMAT
Entryways Snow Pattern coir
doormat, \$51, wayfair.com



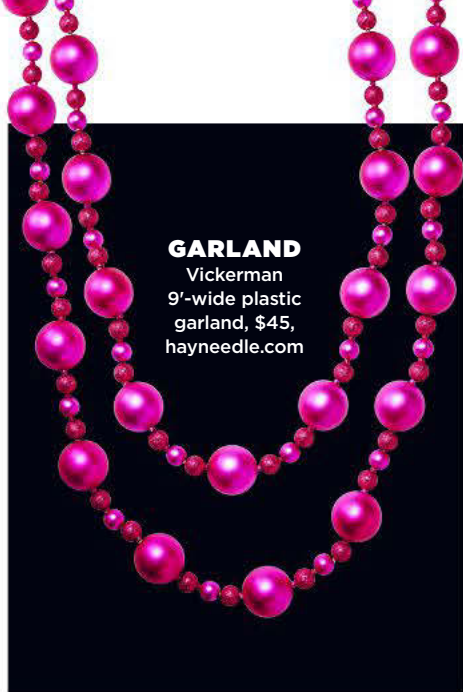
TREE SKIRT
Starburst Stripes 44"-diameter
polyester tree skirt, \$64, zazzle.com

fun decorating

To learn how to make this folded tree, go to hgvtv.com/diy-gift-wrapping.

These itty-bitty party lanterns come in 19 colors.





GARLAND

Vickerman
9'-wide plastic
garland, \$45,
hayneedle.com



ADVENT CALENDAR

Modern cardboard and paper
advent calendar, \$29, milchundhonig.etsy.com



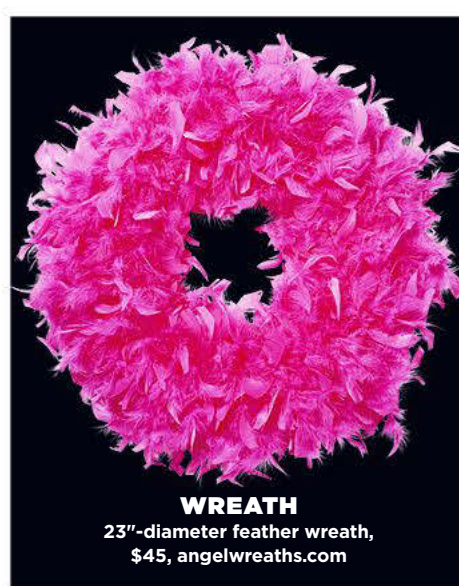
ORNAMENT

Deck the Halls Stripes 2½"-diameter
porcelain ornament, \$30, katespade.com



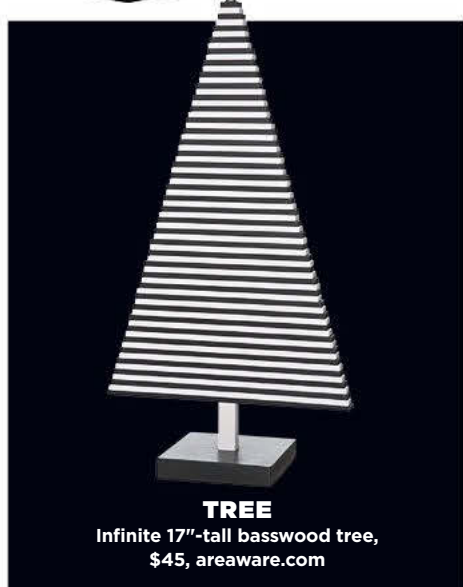
STOCKING

Santa Baby
Stripes canvas
stocking, \$20,
rosannainc.com



WREATH

23"-diameter feather wreath,
\$45, angelwreaths.com



TREE

Infinite 17"-tall basswood tree,
\$45, areaware.com



CANDY STICKS IN A PITCHER

Räsymatto 42-ounce stoneware pitcher,
\$78, us.marimekko.com; rock
candy sticks, candywarehouse.com



MENORAH

Modern 8¼" x
9¼" aluminum
menorah, \$33,
traditionsjewish
gifts.com

This cluster of mini gold ornaments made for a tree is perfect on a present.



Wrap glittery garland around the box. Personalize with the giftee's initial.



ORNAMENTS

Gold Topped 2¼"-diameter glass ornaments, \$59.50 for a mixed set of 7, codyfosterandco.com for buying info



GOLD PINECONES IN A BOWL

5½"-diameter earthenware bowls, \$24 for a set of 4, anthropologie.com; gold pinecones, save-on-crafts.com



TREES

Glaesser Frosted wood trees, from \$80 each (small is 8¾"H x 3½"-diameter), horchow.com



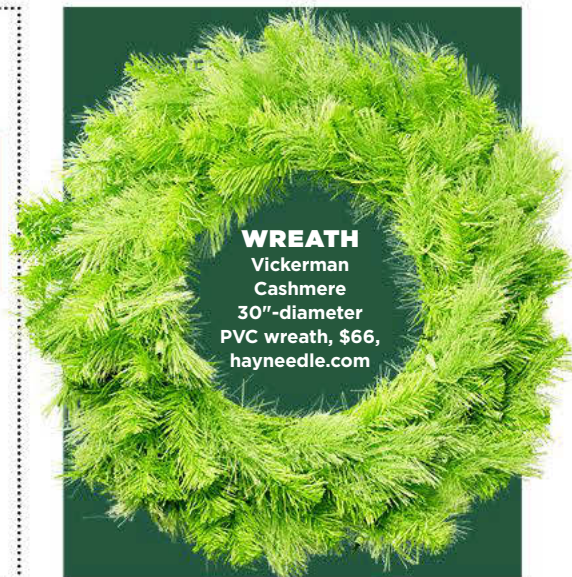
STOCKING

Tropical Holiday wool felt stocking, \$20, novica.com

color combo #4



chartreuse
pine green
peach



WREATH

Vickerman Cashmere 30"-diameter PVC wreath, \$66, hayneedle.com



GARLAND

Tribal 8'-wide paper garland, \$18, carismaticdesigns.etsy.com



ORNAMENTS

Leaping Deer 3½" x 4½" resin ornaments, \$75 for a mixed set of 4, codyfosterandco.com for buying info



SIGN

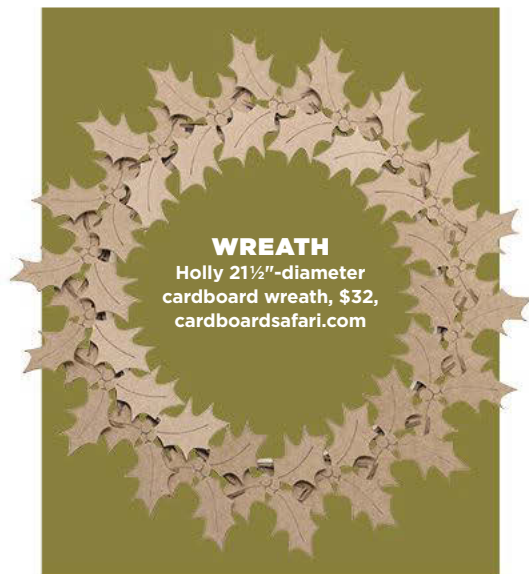
Jingle Wreath 12" x 9" eco-felt banner, \$14, kitchenonline.com

fun decorating

To learn how to
make this paper
poinsettia, go to
[hgtv.com/diy-
gift-wrapping](http://hgtv.com/diy-gift-wrapping).

Tie a "necklace"
of beaded garland
to your present.





WREATH

Holly 21½"-diameter
cardboard wreath, \$32,
cardboardsafari.com



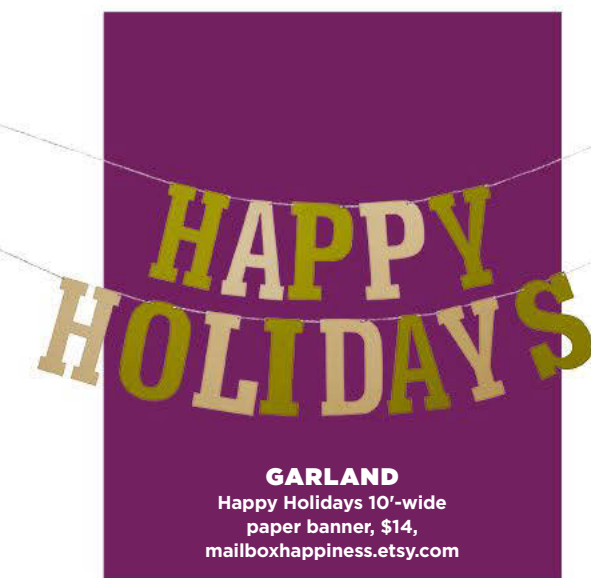
STOCKING

Over the Garden
Gate wool
stocking, \$32,
spongetta.etsy.com



ADVENT CALENDAR

16"W x 2"D x 20"H pine Advent
tree, \$85, modishstore.com



GARLAND

Happy Holidays 10'-wide
paper banner, \$14,
mailboxhappiness.etsy.com

color combo #5

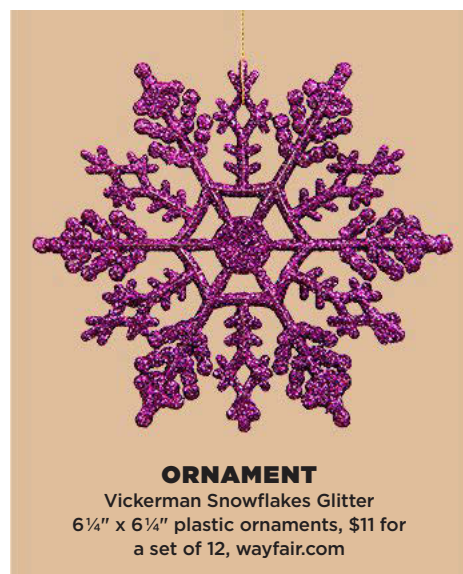


tan
plum
olive green



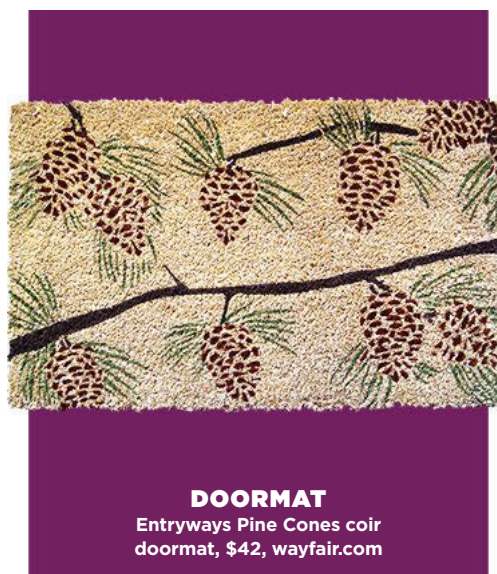
CANDY ON A TRAY

Dauville 6" x 11" porcelain platter,
\$38, canvashomestore.com;
old-fashioned thin ribbon candy,
candywarehouse.com



ORNAMENT

Vickerman Snowflakes Glitter
6¼" x 6¼" plastic ornaments, \$11 for
a set of 12, wayfair.com



DOORMAT

Entryways Pine Cones coir
doormat, \$42, wayfair.com



NAPKIN + NAPKIN RING

Festival 20" x 20" linen napkins,
\$58 for a set of 4, sferra.com;
Faceted Bead Flower plastic and
iron napkin ring, \$5, pier1.com

fun decorating

Layer
ribbons.
These are
burlap
and green
velvet.

To find out where to buy all
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trimmings, see page 144.

Use a sprig from your
Christmas tree to
spruce up a package.

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HOLIDAY hoopla

FROM COAST TO COAST



While Santas surf in California, elves race in North Carolina. Here's how towns across the country get in the holiday spirit.

celebrations



GARRISON, ND

Dickens Village Festival

November 27-29 and

December 4-5 and 11-12, 2015

Starting the day after Thanksgiving, the small community of Garrison (population 1,550) channels Charles Dickens in a big way, transforming the entire downtown into an old-fashioned Victorian wonderland for this charming bash. Locals dress in historic outfits, store windows sparkle with holiday decorations, and dozens of events unfold, including an updated staging of *A Christmas Carol*. To complete your experience, hitch a ride on the double-decker Queen Elizabeth, which offers rides around town. (dickensfestival.com)

CRESTED BUTTE, CO

Santa Ski

December 12, 2015

Ho, ho, ho and away they go! Dressed head to toe in nearly identical Santa suits—beards, too—close to 800 skiers and snowboarders of all ages will hit the slopes at Crested Butte Mountain Resort for this self-anointed “world’s largest Santa ski.” Bonus: Anyone outfitted like Saint Nick can ski for just \$23, about \$80 less than a regular day pass. There’s also an optional après-ski pub crawl for of-age participants. (cbsantacrawl.com)



CHICAGO, IL

Ugly Sweater Run

December 12, 2015

This 5k race keeps things merry with a giant inflatable Santa, snowblowers, and hot chocolate along the course. Proceeds benefit Save the Children, and runners receive custom knit hats. If you don’t live near the Windy City but want to run your best while wearing your worst, Ugly Sweater Runs take place in 19 additional locations. (theuglysweaterrun.com)



KENNEBUNKPORT, ME

Pooch Parade

December 13, 2015

Labs and terriers and beagles, oh my! With Slugger—the perky mascot of the local minor-league baseball team, the Portland Sea Dogs—leading the way, Kennebunkport’s cutest canines will don their holiday finest for the fifth annual Pooch Parade. Part of the town’s 10-day-long Christmas Prelude celebration, the procession typically showcases dogs decked out in angel wings, reindeer antlers, tartan jackets, and bedazzled bows. (christmasprelude.com)



DANA POINT, CA Surfing Santa Competition

November 21, 2015

At Southern California's Surfing Santa Competition, surfers dress up like Kriss Kringle, plucky reindeer, and Christmas elves as they paddle for the best waves and vie for the biggest air. Hosted by The Ritz-Carlton, Laguna Niguel, the event benefits Surfers Healing, a charity that hosts free surf camps for autistic children and their families. (surfingsantacontest.org)



ITHACA, NY

Ithaca Ice Festival: National Ice Carving Competition

December 10–12, 2015

Watch world-class ice sculptors armed with chisels, chain saws, and blowtorches test their skills at this competition. Working downtown at Ithaca Commons, a pedestrian mall, the artists have been known to transform enormous blocks of ice into flying reindeer, angels, and even a larger-than-life praying mantis while spectators cheer them on. (downtownithaca.com)



FORT LAUDERDALE, FL

The Seminole Hard Rock Winterfest Boat Parade

December 12, 2015

During this floating fete—now in its 44th year—a 12-mile stretch of the Intracoastal Waterway morphs into a runway for a flotilla of 100-plus kayaks, sailboats, barges, motorboats, and mega-yachts decorated with holiday dazzle. This year's Fairy Tales Afloat theme means Santa will mix it up with mermaids, dragons, and sugar-plum fairies. (winterfestparade.com)

Those lush lashes are skis!



BETHEL, ME

World's Tallest Snowman

The small town of Bethel is the birthplace of the world's tallest snowman—she's a snowwoman, actually. Built in 2008, the 122-foot-tall sculpture earned the town a Guinness World Record that it still holds today. Named Olympia, after then Maine senator Olympia Snowe, she had skis for eyelashes, truck tires for buttons, and 27-foot-tall evergreens for arms. Olympia has melted, but you can see her 6-foot-long necklace and the Guinness plaque at Bethel's Chamber of Commerce. (bethelmaine.com)



MANITOU SPRINGS, CO

Great Fruitcake Toss

January 30, 2016

Started in 1995 to help citizens put unwanted fruitcakes to use after the holidays, the tongue-in-cheek Great Fruitcake Toss has let competitors toss, hurl, catapult, and cannon these maligned loaves into the air. Most participants dispatch their own fruitcakes, but loaves can be "rented" for the bargain price of \$1 the day of the event. If you plan to go, bring your A game—last year's winner, crowned Mr. Fruitcake, tossed one of the leaden treats 172 feet! (visitcos.com/fruitcake-toss)

BELLINGHAM, WA

Gingerbread House Contest

December 4–6, 2015

Mini replicas of Seattle's iconic Space Needle, the Washington state capitol, and even Santa's reindeer stable are among the sweet structures that have impressed crowds at this annual gingerbread house competition held at the Bellingham Cruise Terminal. But don't be intimidated: Everyone from kindergartners to senior citizens can submit creations. (portofbellingham.com)



STATESVILLE, NC

Running of the Elves

December 5, 2015

The evening of December 5, runners dressed as Santa's favorite helpers will compete in the annual 5k and 10k road races held in Statesville's historic downtown. Christmas carolers will belt out holiday tunes, while residents and volunteers cheer along the brightly lit course. A portion of the proceeds benefits two local charities. (runningoftheelves.blogspot.com)

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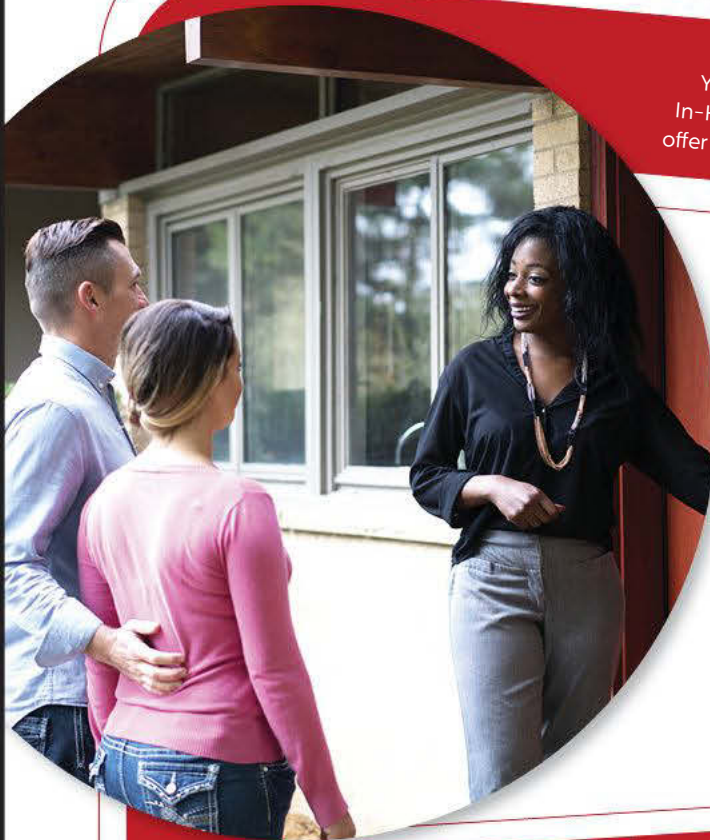


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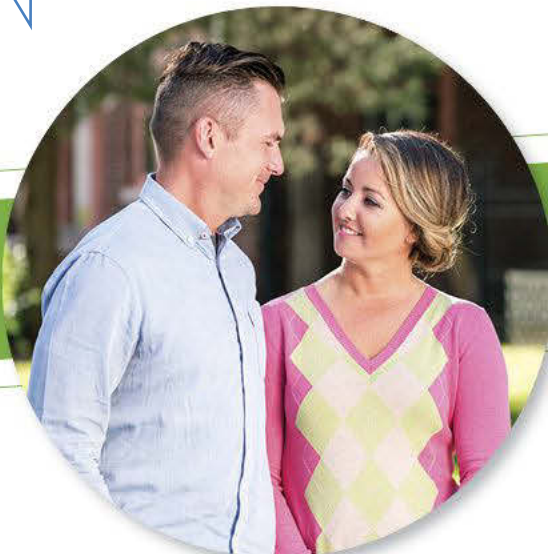


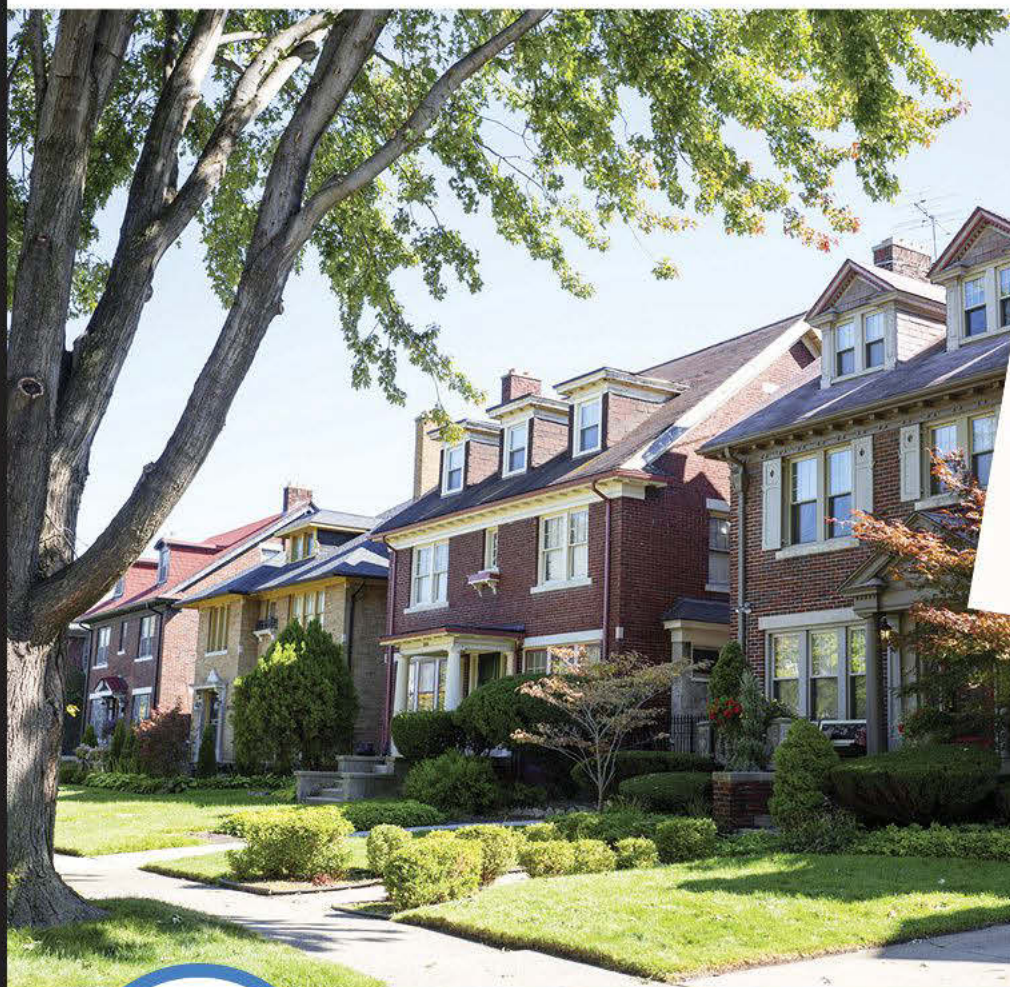
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Convenience: If you're used to the daily convenience of nearby shopping and other amenities found in a city, then moving to the country might be difficult to get used to. Considering the importance of these comforts will guide your home search.



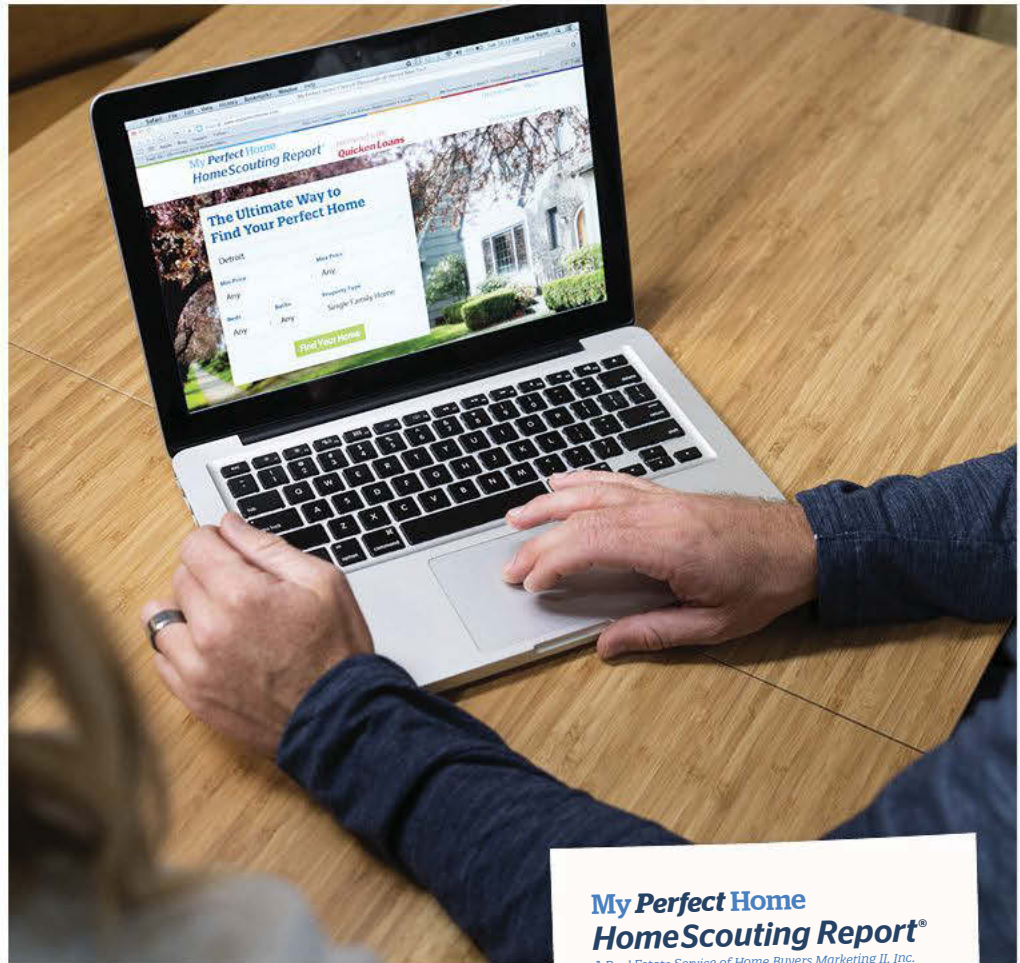
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Don't Focus on Decor: Learn to look past other people's design taste. Wallpaper and paint color can easily be changed to fit your needs. Don't let a minor cosmetic issue cloud your view of an otherwise extraordinary home.

Take Your Time: A home is your largest investment, and one that requires your full attention. When viewing a house, make sure you take the time to really explore the home and visualize it as yours.



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FROM 'HOUSE' TO 'HOME'

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Take Your Time: Rather than rushing to furnish the whole house, take some time to settle in and get to know your new space. Give yourself the luxury of having room to add those perfect finds as you discover them.

Make It Your Own: The key to making a house your home is personalization. Even if you're on an extremely tight budget, there are easy ways to showcase your personality and interests without breaking the bank. Create a

gallery wall with prints of your favorite photos. Replace old and worn window treatments with something new for a quick way to give a room a fast facelift.

Get to Know Your Neighbors: Even if you're not a social butterfly, getting to know your neighbors can provide you with a great deal of comfort. If you're out of town or home alone, knowing your home is surrounded by a trusted group of people can help ease your mind.



QL

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house tours



Nicole and Brandon with Eleanor, 6; Calvin, 1; and August, 4

COZY Christmas house

Come December, this Chicago-area home reaches peak comfort and joy.

exterior

Located in a historic district, the home was painted in seven different exterior colors by the previous owner. “She did taupes, pink, teal, and purples,” says Nicole. “I love it! It’s like this storybook house I was always meant to own.”



Nicole and Brandon Balch's Victorian home in Oak Park, IL, hits its prime during holiday time. Although icy Lake Michigan gales howl outside, everything inside is snug and festive, from the greenery swagging the original oak woodwork to the Tannenbaum twinkling in the curved front windows. Three years ago, the couple was charmed by the 1890s character of the 3,000-square-foot house, even though Nicole had never been a rah-rah fan of 19th-century architecture. “This place was just so special, it pulled

me in,” she says. While smitten with the meticulously restored period details, Nicole didn't want the house's history to dictate the decor. Her game plan: Create a multi-decade mix of bold patterns and fearless colors that's totally up-to-the-minute—and compatible with the home's past. With comfy furniture and a meandering layout that encourages guests to circulate, it's ideal for the holiday shindigs the couple loves to host. There'll be lots of family at their Christmas Eve brunch and Christmas day dinner because, for Nicole, the more, the merrier. “This house was meant to have a lot of people in it,” she says.

wall color

Black Beauty by
Benjamin Moore



fireplace

Originally intended for burning coal, the family room's fireplace was retrofitted decades ago to run on gas. "It's great—you get the visual of flickering flames without any of the work," says Nicole. Brass reindeer from the 1970s found on eBay and a large abstract painting of the Grand Canal in Venice, Italy, loosen up the traditional oak mantel.



living room

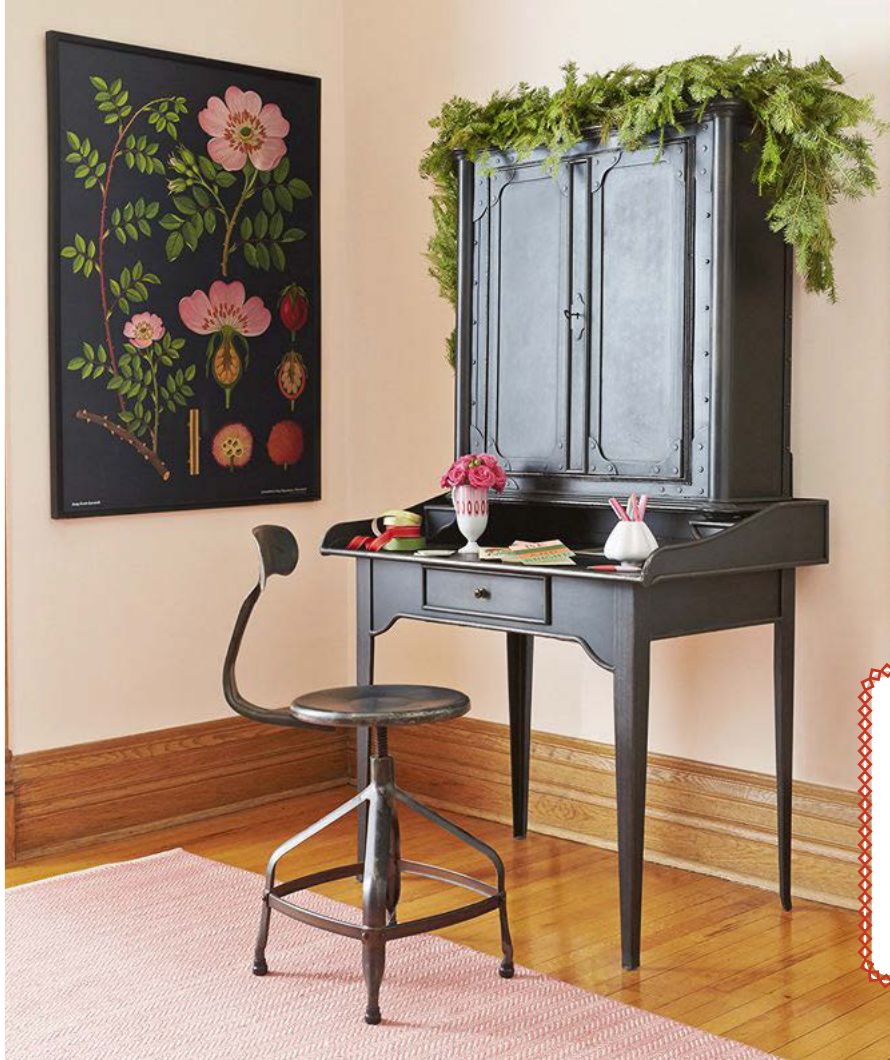
The oak shelves and cabinets could pass for Victorian craftsmanship, but they're new construction. "They totally blend in with the original 1890s shutters and trim," says Nicole. The black-and-white-striped sofa from chairish.com holds its own against the wall of books, and it inspired the black-and-white-chevron ornaments on the Christmas tree. The rug is by Dash & Albert, and the pom-pom-trimmed pillows are from West Elm.

wall color

Pink Ground by
Farrow & Ball







“The ceilings are 10 feet tall, and large-scale art helps balance that height.”

—Nicole

home office

An iron Restoration Hardware secretary, topped with boughs of fresh spruce and Douglas fir, and a utilitarian stool turn a living room corner into a festive spot for writing Christmas cards. Nicole credits the pink and black in the fab.com print—a reproduction of a German educational chart popular in the 1950s and '60s—for inspiring the home's color palette.

family room

It was a big risk, big reward decision, but painting the walls true black (Black Beauty by Benjamin Moore) made the teal sofa and the floral side chair—both from Anthropologie—look more sophisticated. The graphic gray-and-white rug is from Rugs USA.





dining room

In the high-traffic dining room—where the family eats every meal—wipe-clean galvanized-steel chairs from Industry West and a sturdy Pottery Barn outdoor rug keep everything kid-proof. During holiday gatherings, Nicole lays out a dessert and coffee buffet on the colossal 8-foot-by-7-foot mirrored oak hutch, which came with the house.



wall color
Comfort Gray by
Sherwin-Williams

master bedroom

The shag rug from Anthropologie kick-started the coral color scheme in the master bedroom, which teams a Room & Board bed with a walnut side table passed down from Brandon's grandparents. Thanks to a picture rail that's original to the house, Nicole can easily change up the art—or hang a holiday wreath. The bedding is from West Elm, and the brass-finish adjustable lamps are from Pottery Barn.


eleanor's bedroom

Eleanor—a.k.a. the family's designer-in-training—requested a bedroom painted deep blue (Loyal Blue by Sherwin-Williams). Since the ceiling is also dark, a West Elm chandelier ensures the space gets plenty of light. Horses, one of Eleanor's favorite animals, were put on repeat: They appear on the Garnet Hill duvet cover and in the secondhand painting above the Target desk.



playroom

The third-floor playroom is splashed with eye-catching prints, from the stripes on the Dwell Studio wool rug to the florals on the drapes that Nicole sewed from Moda fabric. The squishy Land of Nod beanbag chairs are Eleanor and August's favorite spots for plopping down and reading.



Whitney with
daughters Sonny,
10, and Sofie, 7

visions of sugarplums

An unconventional color scheme
lets this homeowner put her own sweet
spin on holiday decorating.

PHOTOGRAPHS BY **ZACH DeSART**
STYLED BY **ELIZABETH DEMOS**

Plastic candy canes become table decor when corralled in a clear vase.



entry

Since the house lacks a foyer, Whitney turned a well-trafficked spot between the kitchen and the living room into an entryway. Furnished with a slim Parsons table and cowhide-and-acrylic footstools, the area is a convenient place to tie shoes or drop bags. She chose the framed print by Natural Curiosities for its bold pattern. "I can't commit to wallpaper or colorful paint, so I do a lot of graphic art," she says. The antique glass lamp is one of a kind.



As the owner of two home decor stores, Whitney Moore knows the value of eye candy. “My customers love to see fun, happy things, and I feel the same way in my house,” she says. At no time is that truer than during the holidays, when the single mom of daughters Sonny and Sofie piles on the whimsy in her Mount Pleasant, SC, home. That means DIY garlands; ornaments in sugary shades of pink, blue, and green; and a giant white tinsel tree. “Christmas is all about what my girls want,” says Whitney. The decidedly out-of-the-box take on holiday decorating suits the three-bedroom cottage perfectly. Once bogged down by bulky built-ins and dated burgundy and gold walls, the 15-year-old house now features glamorous light fixtures, eye-catching art, and an eclectic mix of furniture culled almost exclusively from Whitney’s stores, Candelabra and Lyndon Leigh. “I go for quirky, and our Christmas definitely looks quirky,” she says. “But it’s so us, I wouldn’t have it any other way.”



The 8-foot-tall tinsel tree gets loaded with ornaments “until it’s bursting,” says Whitney.

wall color

Swiss Coffee by
Benjamin Moore



A mango wood bowl does double duty as a place to display ornaments.

living room

Although Whitney loves real trees, she and Sonny are allergic, so white tinsel takes center stage. "If you go fake, don't hide it," she says. Layered with jewel-toned ornaments, the tree adds pops of color to the subdued living space, which features an Oly slatted wood console, a Mr. Brown mirrored coffee table, and a low-slung sofa in tan suede. Fuchsia trim peeps up the custom ecru armchair, and the off-white cowhide rug features a patchwork design.

“Every year I think,
*What can we do
to the house so it doesn't
look like everybody's
same old Christmas?*”
—Whitney



Other than Whitney's bedroom, the entire house—inside and out—is painted creamy white. "It's the only time I go for anything vanilla," she says.

For Christmas, a gold-leaved étagère is draped with a peppermint candy garland and monogrammed stockings.



dining room

Two of Whitney's most beloved finds, the Julian Chichester walnut table and the gold-finish lantern-style light fixture, dominate the dining space. For seating, she mixed Bungalow 5 wood wishbone chairs with upholstered white stools. "I get bored easily, so it doesn't pay to invest in chairs that all look the same," she says. The photo of a diver reminds her of one of her favorite mottos: "Sink or swim. I choose to swim."



Bubble gum pink taper candles jazz up resin candlesticks.





Vintage-style
candy jars
are stocked
with goodies.

Whitney loads ball ornaments into the chandelier for the holidays.



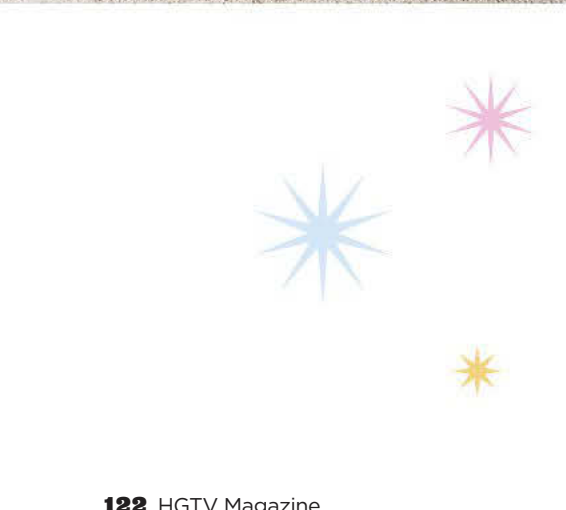
kitchen


To keep costs down for her kitchen reno, Whitney painted the existing cabinets the same color as the walls (Swiss Coffee by Benjamin Moore) and opted for subway tiles from Lowe's. Instead of an island, she placed a farm table she's owned for more than a decade front and center. During the year, it serves as the family's main dining table, and over the holidays, it's cookie-decorating central. The bench is by Currey and Company, and the wool-blend rug is by Aelfie, both available at shopcandelabra.com.



sonny's bedroom

Dressed in vivid shades of pink, this space looks cheery year-round. In fact, the only yuletide addition is a tabletop tree from a crafts store. To create the princess-y atmosphere Sonny wanted, Whitney got her an Eloquence carved wood bed, then installed a crystal chandelier and hung an Outpost Original magenta feather headboard on the wall. "It looks like a big flower—perfect for my girly girl," Whitney says.





A garland
Whitney made
of plastic
and foam
sweets from
Hobby Lobby
hangs across
Sofie's bed.

sofie's bedroom

An Oly four-poster bed, accented with tie-dyed curtains and a bed skirt from Target, reflect younger sis Sofie's laid-back style. "She's the fearless, funky one," says Whitney. The woven pendant light and electrified peace sign amp up the '70s vibe—and create a cozy glow at night. "Sofie will close the curtains to her bed and just camp out," Whitney says.

wall color

Healing Aloe by
Benjamin Moore

master
bedroom

With its soothing shades of blue and camel, Whitney's bedroom has a look all its own. The centerpiece is a Grace & Blake feather chandelier, one of Whitney's favorite pieces from her store Candelabra. Piled with texture-rich pillows and a vintage wedding blanket, her Oly bed has major presence.

At its foot, she added a leather armchair and a rattan side table. The Tibetan lamb rug is so soft, "you could sleep on it instead of the bed!" Whitney says.

FOR SHOPPING
SOURCES, SEE PAGE 144.



“We’re an all-girl house—the perfect place for a feather chandelier,” says Whitney.

What looks like a necklace stand is actually a sculpture of strands of beads.





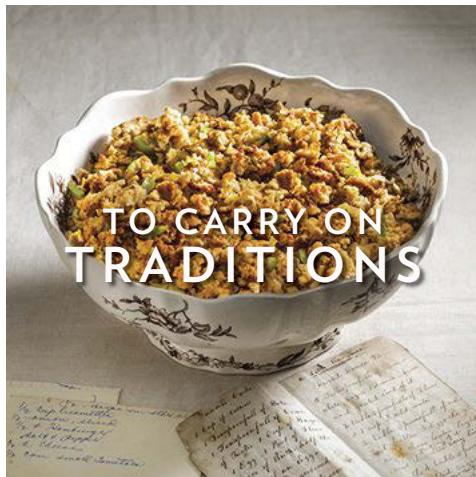
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kitchen style



dream kitchen ON A DIME

To get a high-style space minus the ka-ching,
a resourceful Texas couple cut costs, not corners.

PHOTOGRAPHS BY **BUFF STRICKLAND** STYLED BY **ELIZABETH DEMOS**

kitchen style

tile

Classic white subway tiles stretching to the ceiling were an inexpensive way to give the walls some oomph. Although Emily and Sean had never laid tile before, the process was—to their surprise—drama-free. “We invested \$50 in a tile cutter, made sure the counters were level, and were good to go,” says Sean.

floor

After assessing their fledgling handyman skills, the Pabens outsourced the installation of the 2-inch-wide hexagonal black ceramic tiles from Tiles Direct. “If we hadn’t, the floor wouldn’t be finished yet,” says Sean. Gleaming antique brass kickplates Emily found online contrast with the tiles and echo the cabinets’ brass hardware.

cabinets


No one ever guesses the sleek, glossy cabinets are actually pressed particleboard from IKEA. Sean luxed them up with high-shine gray paint (E15-57 by Fine Paints of Europe) and brushed-brass hardware from myknobs.com. The Danby marble countertops were a splurge, but the visual payoff was huge.



ceiling

Exhausted by attempts to scrape off the home's original, old-school popcorn ceiling, Emily and Sean hid it instead using low-cost pine paneling. They had planned on painting or staining the planks but liked the raw boards so much, they just kept the wood as is. "There's such a rustic, nostalgic feel to it," says Emily.

Emily and Sean Paben are as fearless as they are frugal. When the can-do couple decided to save money by reno'ing the dated kitchen in their 1970s Waco, TX, home on their own, they plunged in with almost no remodeling experience, fallback funds—or power tools. "I actually didn't own an electric saw when we started," says Sean, general manager of Magnolia Market, the store owned by HGTV's Chip and Joanna Gaines. "I had to borrow one from a friend." Learning as they went, the Pabens spent most weekends in 2014 transforming the cramped eyesore into an open-plan kitchen with a rustic-industrial feel. But the slim budget didn't mean they had to sacrifice personality. With some strategic spending, the duo was able to pack the cooking space with style and still save along the way. The result: a one-of-a-kind kitchen that's now the family's go-to gathering hub. Still, there won't be a repeat performance anytime soon. "I don't want to do another remodel for a long, long time," says Sean.



Emily and Sean with, from left, Eva, 11; Oliver, 9; and Oaks, 6; and French bulldog Henri

kitchen style

lights

With the extra-large pendants they really wanted out of their price range, the couple crafted their own using pleated black fabric shades lined with gold foil from Fenchel Shades and lamp hardware from Grand Brass Lamp Parts. Total cost: \$150 each, hundreds less than the store versions they were eyeing.

island

The twofer of affordability and practicality sold the couple on butcher block for the top of the island. "We chop everything except raw meat right on the wood," says Emily. "We're definitely not nice to it." Twice a year Sean sands the surface and applies food-safe mineral oil to keep the walnut in tip-top condition.

“Why is there a sofa in here? Because I really like kitchens that don't feel like kitchens.”

—Emily

sitting area

Knowing everyone always congregates in the kitchen, the Pabens turned a corner into a hangout spot, complete with forest-themed wallpaper from Anthropologie and a Restoration Hardware settee. "Our friends thought we were crazy to put a sofa in here, but we love, love, love it," says Emily.



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make
a cookie

give
a cookie

keep
a cookie

Bake these
goodies, wrap
them in festive
packages, and
save a few for
yourself. Now
that's a recipe for
a happy holiday!

RECIPES BY
FOOD NETWORK MAGAZINE

PHOTOGRAPHS BY
EMILY KATE ROEMER

FOOD STYLED BY
CHRISTINE ALBANO

The background of the entire page is a vibrant red surface covered in fine, white sanding sugar. Scattered across this background are approximately 15 pistachio spritz cookies. Each cookie is a light golden-brown color and is shaped like a stylized Christmas tree with a flat base and a pointed top. The cookies are decorated with three horizontal bands of bright green pistachio sanding sugar. The cookies are arranged in a somewhat diagonal pattern from the top left towards the bottom right.

make pistachio spritz cookies

TIME: 1 hour, 10 minutes
MAKES: about 84 cookies

$\frac{1}{2}$ cup pistachios	$1\frac{1}{2}$ sticks unsalted butter, at room temperature
$\frac{3}{4}$ cup plus 1 tablespoon granulated sugar	1 large egg
2 cups all-purpose flour	1 teaspoon pure vanilla extract
$\frac{1}{4}$ teaspoon salt	Sanding sugar, for decorating

- Position racks in the upper and lower thirds of the oven and preheat to 350°F.

- Pulse the pistachios and 1 tablespoon granulated sugar in a food processor until the nuts are finely ground and powdery. Sift with the flour and salt into a medium bowl; set aside.

- Beat the remaining $\frac{3}{4}$ cup granulated sugar and the butter in a large bowl with a mixer on medium speed until light and fluffy, about 3 minutes. Add the egg and vanilla extract, and beat until combined. Reduce the mixer speed to low; add the pistachio mixture and beat until completely incorporated.

- Fill a cookie press with the dough, following the package instructions. Press cookies about 1½ inches apart onto 2 ungreased baking sheets. Sprinkle with sanding sugar. Bake, switching the pans halfway through, until cookies are set and golden around the edges, 10 to 12 minutes. Let cool 5 minutes on the baking sheets, then transfer to racks to cool completely.

give

faux-log packages

- Remove the plastic caps from both ends of a small cardboard mailing tube.
- Cut a piece of wood grain-patterned wrapping paper the same height as the tube and wide enough that when you wrap it around the tube, it overlaps slightly. Adhere the paper to the tube with double-sided tape.
- String a gift tag on a long piece of twine, then tie the twine around the tube. Replace the bottom cap and fill the tube with cookies. Replace the top cap.

TUBES Kraft 9"H x 3"-diameter mailing tubes with end caps, \$24 for a set of 25, uline.com
WRAPPING PAPER Faux Bois wrapping paper, \$3 per 19½" x 27" sheet, papersource.com
CAR TAG (customized with a white background) Retro Car holiday gift tag downloadable PDF, \$3, revintagedart.etsy.com
WOOD TAG (customized with stamped name) 2"-diameter wood slice ornaments, \$20 for a set of 25, churchhousewoodworks.etsy.com
TWINE Bond jute twine in green, \$12 for 200 feet, amazon.com

Two dozen pistachio
spritz cookies
fit in each tube.



keep

colorful tree tin

Christmas Trees 7½"H x 6½"-diameter
tin canister, \$13, retroplanet.com



make chocolate sugar cookies

TIME: 4 hours, 20 minutes
MAKES: about 36 cookies

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1¾ cups all-purpose flour, plus more for dusting | 1¾ cups granulated sugar |
| ½ cup unsweetened cocoa powder | 1 large egg |
| ¾ teaspoon baking soda | 1 teaspoon pure vanilla extract |
| ¼ teaspoon baking powder | Cooking spray |
| ½ teaspoon salt | 2 cups confectioners' sugar |
| 2 sticks unsalted butter, at room temperature | 2 tablespoons meringue powder |
| | Coarse sugar, for decorating |

- Whisk the flour, cocoa powder, baking soda, baking powder, and salt in a medium bowl.
- Beat the butter and granulated sugar in a large bowl with a mixer on medium-high speed until light and fluffy, about 5 minutes. Add the egg and vanilla extract; beat until creamy, about 2 more minutes. Reduce the mixer speed to low; gradually add the flour mixture, and beat until just incorporated, about 2 more minutes.
- Divide the dough between 2 sheets of plastic wrap; form into disks. Wrap and refrigerate until firm, at least 1 hour.
- Roll out the dough between floured sheets of parchment paper until about ¼ inch thick. Chill 2 more hours.
- Position racks in the upper and lower thirds of the oven and preheat to 350°F. Mist 2 baking sheets with cooking spray. Cut the dough into circles with a 2-inch-diameter cookie cutter; gather the scraps and reroll once to cut out more cookies. Arrange 2 inches apart on the prepared baking sheets. Bake, switching the pans halfway through, until cookies are set, about 12 minutes. Let cool 5 minutes on the baking sheets, then transfer to racks to cool completely.
- Make the icing: Beat the confectioners' sugar, meringue powder, and 3 to 4 tablespoons water in a bowl with a mixer on high speed until smooth and thick. Transfer to a resealable bag, and snip a small corner. Pipe a snowflake onto each cookie; sprinkle with coarse sugar. Let set 30 minutes.

give

cozy sweater container

- Punch a gift tag out of kraft cardstock, then punch a hole at the top.
- Use a pouncer to coat a snowflake stamp with white crafts paint. Stamp in the middle of the gift tag. Let dry.
- Stack cookies in a cellophane bag, and tie the gift tag around the bag with ribbon. Tie two pieces of extra-thick yarn into a big bow over the ribbon. Place the bag inside the mug.

TAG PUNCH Clever Lever Extra Giga merchandise tag crafts punch, \$26, uchida.com
STAMP Snowflake 2" x 2" rubber stamp, \$15, rubberstamps.com **YARN** Bernat Mega Bulky acrylic yarn in radiant orchid and claret, \$9 each for 64 yards, fabric.com **MUG** Cable Knit porcelain mug in blue, \$9, stashtea.com

You can tuck a dozen chocolate sugar cookies in this mug.



keep

snowflake tin

Snowflake 7¼"H x 7"-diameter steel tin, \$6, e-cookietins.com

The background of the page is a close-up of green sand, which is the surface the cookies are resting on. There are four candy cane cookies visible. Each cookie is shaped like a classic candy cane, with a curved top and a long, straight handle. They are decorated with alternating bands of red and white sanding sugar. The cookies are arranged in a way that they appear to be scattered on the sand. The red sanding sugar is a vibrant red, and the white sanding sugar is a clean, bright white. The texture of the sand is very fine and granular, giving it a soft, velvety appearance. The lighting is bright and even, highlighting the colors of the cookies and the texture of the sand.

make candy cane cookies

TIME: 3 hours
MAKES: about 30 cookies

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1½ sticks unsalted butter, at room temperature | 1 teaspoon pure vanilla extract |
| ¾ cup superfine sugar, plus more for rolling | ¼ teaspoon pure peppermint extract (optional) |
| ¼ teaspoon salt | 2 cups all-purpose flour |
| 1 large egg | Red sanding sugar |

● Beat the butter, superfine sugar, and salt in a large bowl with a mixer on medium speed until light and fluffy, about 3 minutes. Beat in the egg, vanilla extract, and peppermint extract. Reduce the mixer speed to low, and beat in the flour until incorporated. Transfer the dough to a piece of plastic wrap, and pat into a rectangle; tightly wrap and refrigerate until firm, at least 1 hour and up to overnight.

● Spread some red sanding sugar and superfine sugar on separate plates. Gently roll heaping teaspoonfuls of dough into short logs with your hands. Roll half of the logs, one at a time, in red sanding sugar to form 4-inch strands. Repeat with the remaining logs and the superfine sugar.

● Line 2 baking sheets with parchment paper. Twist 1 strand of each color together, then arrange on the prepared baking sheets, about 2 inches apart, and bend the tops to form candy canes. Refrigerate until firm, about 15 minutes. Meanwhile, position racks in the upper and lower thirds of the oven and preheat to 350°F.

● Bake, switching the pans halfway through, until cookies are set and lightly browned around the edges, 11 to 13 minutes. Let cool completely on the baking sheets.

A box this size
can stash six candy
cane cookies.

give

peppermint-striped cube

- Remove the lid from a plastic box. Wrap strips of red-and-white-striped washi tape horizontally around the lower two-thirds of the box, lining up the tape for a continuous pattern. The strips of tape should touch but not overlap.
- Stand cookies up inside the box, and replace the lid. Wrap the box with ribbon, tying a bow at the top.
- Hot-glue a mini candy cane to a red gift tag. Tie the tag to the bow with string.

BOX 4 $\frac{1}{6}$ " x 3 $\frac{3}{8}$ " flush-lid amac box in clear, \$3, containerstore.com
WASHI TAPE Little B 25-mm-wide decorative paper tape in candy cane stripes, \$4.50 per roll, joann.com **RIBBON** 1"-wide satin ribbon in red, \$7 for 10 yards, papersource.com **GIFT TAG** 2" x 4" red gift tag, \$2 for a set of 10, containerstore.com



keep

candy cane cookie jar

9"H x 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ "-diameter
earthenware cookie
jar in red and
white stripes, \$82,
[owlcreekceramics
.etsy.com](http://owlcreekceramics.etsy.com)



make gingerbread cutouts

TIME: 2 hours, 30 minutes

MAKES: about 30 cookies

- | | |
|--|---|
| 2½ cups all-purpose flour, plus more for dusting | ¼ teaspoon freshly ground pepper |
| 1 teaspoon ground ginger | 2 sticks unsalted butter, at room temperature |
| ¾ teaspoon ground cinnamon | ⅓ cup molasses |
| ½ teaspoon baking soda | ⅓ cup superfine sugar |
| ¼ teaspoon ground allspice | 1 cup confectioners' sugar |
| ¼ teaspoon salt | Coarse sugar, for decorating |

● Whisk the flour, ginger, cinnamon, baking soda, allspice, salt, and pepper in a medium bowl.

● Beat the butter, molasses, and superfine sugar in a large bowl with a mixer on medium-high speed until light and fluffy, about 3 minutes. Reduce the mixer speed to low; add the flour mixture in 2 batches, and beat until just incorporated. Divide the dough in half, wrap in plastic wrap, and refrigerate until firm, at least 30 minutes and up to overnight.

● Position racks in the upper and lower thirds of the oven and preheat to 375°F. Working with 1 piece of dough at a time, roll out the dough on a lightly floured surface until about ⅛ inch thick. Cut out shapes using 3-inch-tall cookie cutters, and arrange on 2 ungreased baking sheets. Gather the scraps and refrigerate until firm; reroll once to cut out more cookies. Refrigerate the cutouts until firm, about 10 minutes.

● Bake the cookies, switching the position of the pans halfway through, until the edges are just browned and set, 12 to 15 minutes. Let the cookies cool 2 minutes on the baking sheets, then transfer them to racks to cool completely.

● Make the icing: Whisk the confectioners' sugar with 1 tablespoon boiling water in a small bowl; add 1 teaspoon water if the icing is too thick. Transfer to a resealable plastic bag, and snip a small corner. Pipe the icing onto the cookies; sprinkle with coarse sugar. Let set about 30 minutes.



You can pack about 18 gingerbread cookies in this box.

give

house-shaped gift box

- Adhere a piece of rickrack to the top of a house-shaped paper gift box with crafts glue, then glue thinner rickrack to the front of the box to make windows. Slice gumdrops in half and glue them below the windows.
- Go to hgtv.com/gift-tag to download the template for the door gift tag. Print it on sticker paper, and fill it out. Remove the sticker's backing and adhere the tag to the box.
- Stand cookies up inside the box, then close it. Tie a bow on top with gingham ribbon.

RICKRACK ½"-wide rickrack in white, \$1.50 for 2½ yards, and ¼"-wide rickrack in white, \$1.50 for 4 yards, both simplicity.com

GIFT BOX 8"W x 4⅞"D x 9"H gable box in chocolate, \$2, containerstore.com **RIBBON** Offray ⅞"-wide taffeta gingham check crafts ribbon, \$10 for 9 feet, amazon.com



keep

gingerbread house jar

Peppermint House
7¼"W x 7½"D x 9½"H
ceramic cookie jar, \$60,
williams-sonoma.com

PROMOTION

Holiday HELPERS

As you prep for upcoming holiday events, check out these products that will help make your season bright.

Shazam the blue box for a chance to WIN the products below and \$500 to put toward seasonal shopping!

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IN THE RAW Sweetness runs in the family.

InTheRaw.com

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Mr. Clean Magic Eraser

MrClean.com

Holiday Swag Bag

All of your favorite *HGTV Magazine* gear wrapped up in one! Our chevron tote is filled with an *HGTV Magazine* desk calendar, notebook, and stationery set. The tote is perfect for holiday traveling, and the notebook and calendar will help keep your plans organized all season.



SHAZAM HERE OR VISIT HGTVMAGONLINE.COM TO ENTER.

How It Works:

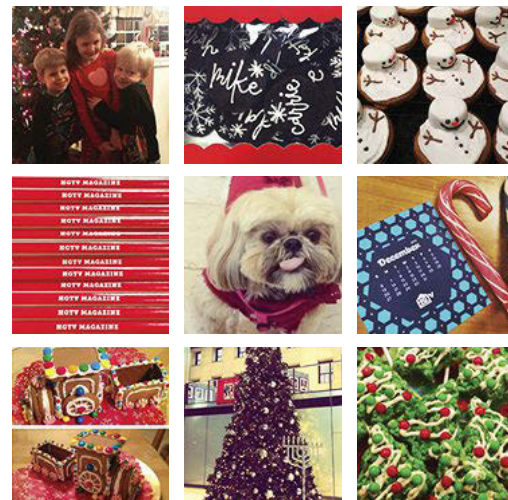
- 1 Launch the Shazam app.
- 2 Tap the camera icon.
- 3 Point your mobile device at this blue box to scan.
- 4 Enter for a chance to win!

After you enter, share with your social networks!

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NO PURCHASE NECESSARY TO ENTER OR WIN. Holiday Helpers Sweepstakes Sponsored by Hearst Communications, Inc. Beginning November 17, 2015 at 12:01 AM (ET) through January 4, 2016 at 11:59 PM (ET), there are two (2) ways to enter: (1) Download and launch on your Internet-enabled mobile device the free Shazam app on the iTunes App Store or Google Play Marketplace. Then use your Internet-enabled mobile device to scan the Shazam-enhanced box featured on the "Holiday Helpers" promotion page featured in the December 2015 issue of HGTV Magazine and fully complete and submit the Official Entry Form presented; or (2) Online Entries: Visit HGTVMagOnline.com/sweepstakes, and complete and submit the entry form pursuant to the on-screen instructions. One (1) Winner will win a \$500 check, one (1) baking kit from Stevia in the Raw (ARV: \$25), one (1) cleaning kit from Mr. Clean (ARV: \$25), and one (1) gift bag from HGTV Magazine (ARV: \$60). Total ARV of all prizes awarded: \$630. Important Notice: You may be charged for visiting the mobile website in accordance with the terms of your service agreement with your carrier. Odds of winning will depend upon the total number of eligible entries received. Must have reached the age of majority and be a legal resident of the 50 United States, the District of Columbia or Canada (excluding Quebec). Void in Puerto Rico and where prohibited by law. Sweepstakes subject to complete official rules available at HGTVMagOnline.com.

PROMOTION



Show us how *HGTV Magazine* inspires you this holiday season.

Follow **@HGTVMagPromo** on Instagram and Twitter and share how you holiday up your house!



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shopping guide

The listed websites may not always offer online ordering, but they will provide all the information needed to buy what you want, including the store nearest you. Some items may be listed as discontinued, custom, or vintage. Sites such as craigslist.org, ebay.com, and etsy.com are great resources to find similar styles. If something is listed as “trade only,” the design professionals at decorativebuyingservice.com can purchase these items on your behalf.

cover

ORNAMENTS (on trees) 1¼"-diameter glass ball Christmas ornaments in matte turquoise blue, shiny baby blue, pearl raspberry pink, and pearl pale pink, \$24 each for a set of 40; 2"-diameter glass ball Christmas ornaments in pearl pale pink, pearl baby blue, and matte raspberry pink, \$36 for a set of 28; and 2¾"-diameter glass ball Christmas ornaments in shiny baby blue, matte turquoise blue, and matte pale pink, \$21 each for a set of 12, all christmascentral.com. (bell) Early Years 3"-tall glass ornaments, \$17.50 for a mixed set of 4, kurtadler.com for stores. **POTS** 3½"H x 4¾"-diameter zinc bucket, \$3.50; and 5¼"H x 6¾"-diameter zinc bucket, \$4.50, both jamaligarden.com. **GIFT WRAP** (on pots) Colorful Stripes gift wrap, \$73 for 30" x 417" roll, papermart.com. (on mantel) Little Fish Medium Red Crosses on Pink satin gift wrap, \$15 per roll, spoonflower.com; Red Gloss gift wrap, from \$4.50 per roll, giftwrapcompany.com for buying info. (in stockings, from left) Jumbo solid gift wrap in Caribbean blue and robin's egg, \$4 each per roll; and Solid gift wrap in bright pink, \$1 per roll, all partycity.com. **RIBBONS** mjtrim.com. **BIRD** prop, unavailable. **CANDLES** 8"-tall taper candles in flamingo, \$32.50 for a set of 12, colonialcandle.com. **CANDLESTICKS** [littala](http://littala.com) Nappula 4¼"H x 3½"-diameter brass candlestick in gold finish, \$75; and 7½"H x 3½"-diameter brass candlestick in gold finish, \$80, both macys.com. **MANTEL** (customized) Housewarmer 60"W x 6¾"D x 6"H wood fireplace mantel shelf, \$199, wayfair.com. **MANTEL PAINT** White Dove #OC-17 by Benjamin Moore. **DIY-GARLAND MATERIALS** (pom-poms) 1-cm-to-2-cm-wide wool felt balls in aqua, from \$0.15 each, tadaastudio.com. (embroidery thread) threadart.com **CANDY CANE** 8"-tall candy cane in very berry, \$3, hammondscandies.com. **FELT FOR STOCKINGS** Wool felt in peacock, alluring aqua, white, bright red, fuchsia, and moss, \$9.50 each

per yard, tadaastudio.com. **IRON-ON FUSING** 805 Wonder Under fusible webbing, \$3 per yard, joann.com.

gift guide

7 Awesome DIY Gifts, pages 58-61

Rope Bracelets: **KNOTTING CORDS** Tangles 'N Knots 1-mm-thick Chinese knotting cord in lime and 1.4-mm-thick Chinese knotting cord in Caribbean blue, royal blue, sky blue, and

teal, all \$3.50 each for 10 yards, all purlsoho.com. **Photo Coasters:** **TILES** American Olean Starting Line 4¼" x 4¼" ceramic wall tiles in white gloss, \$0.16 each, lowes.com. **Map Luggage Tags:** **TRANSFER PAPER** 8½" x 11" dark T-shirt iron-on transfers, \$9.50 for 3 sheets, michaels.com. **SHEET PLASTIC** 16-gauge clear vinyl, \$7 per yard, joann.com. **Color-Palette Napkins:** **NAPKINS** Cotton 22" x 22" dinner napkins, \$17 for a set of 4, cb2.com.

fun decorating

Try Some New Holiday Color Combos, pages 77-87



red, turquoise, and pink:

GIFT WRAP Little Fish Medium Red Crosses on Pink satin gift wrap, \$15 per roll, spoonflower.com; Red Gloss gift wrap, from \$4.50 per roll, giftwrapcompany.com for buying info; (blue pattern) Bold and Bright gift wrap set, \$22 for a mixed set of 8 22" x 28" sheets, eggpress.com; Jumbo solid gift wrap in Caribbean blue, \$4 per roll, partycity.com. **RIBBONS** Satin 2-mm-thick rattail cord in red and light pink, \$7 each for 100 yards; Two-striped satin-edge ¾"-wide organza ribbon in red, \$2 for 25 yards; and Two-striped satin edge ¾"-wide organza ribbon in aqua, \$1.50 for 25 yards, all fuzzyfabric.com. **WOOD ASTERISK TAG** Roost Carnaby Street icons 3"- to 3¼"-diameter wood ornaments, \$15 for a mixed set of 12, modishstore.com. **PAPER STARBURST TAGS** Modern Starburst 4" x 2¼" tags in pink and red, \$5.50 each for a set of 8, rockscissorpaper.com. **CANDY CANE** 8"-tall candy cane in very berry, \$3, hammondscandies.com. **ORNAMENTS** (red) Glass 2½"-diameter Christmas ornaments in flame red, \$7 for a set of 8, bronnens.com; (blue) Jewel-tone 3-finish 2½"-diameter shatterproof plastic Christmas ball ornaments, \$30 for a mixed set of 100, both christmascentral.com; (stripes) Vintage Striped 2"-diameter glass ornaments, from \$4.50 each, codyfosterandco.com for buying info. **FABRIC BACKGROUND** Sensuede polyester-polyurethane fabric in lipstick by S. Harris, sharris.com, decorativebuyingservice.com for buying info.



mint green, navy, and light blue:

GIFT WRAP (clockwise from top left) Turk gift wrap, \$6.50 per roll, smockpaper.com; Palm Beach gift wrap in royal navy, \$10 per 24" x 36" sheet, bellinvito.com; Flag Garland fine paper in green and blue, \$7 per 20" x 30" sheet, papersource.com; Jumbo gift wrap in robin's egg, \$4 per roll, partycity.com; Blue Squares on Cream fine paper, \$5 per 22" x 30" sheet, papersource.com. **RIBBONS** Imported Chromspun 1½"-wide grosgrain ribbon in royal, \$4 per yard, and Imported Chromspun 1"-wide grosgrain ribbon in light blue, \$3 per yard, both mjtrim.com. **TASSELS** (trimmed) Individual 12"-tall tissue tassels in robin's egg and soft green, \$3 each, shopsweetlulu.com. **TAG** Die-cut 2¼" x 4" gift tag in 055, \$2, hammerpress.net. **TISSUE BALLS** Dollhouse 2"-diameter tissue balls in soft green, \$1.50 each, and Fun-Size 3"-diameter tissue balls in apple green, \$2 each, both shopsweetlulu.com. **ORNAMENTS** Color Works 1¼"-diameter glass ball Christmas ornaments, \$13 for a mixed set of 34, christmascentral.com; 2½"-diameter glass ball ornaments in Victoria blue, spa blue, and pale turquoise, \$7 each for a set of 8, bronnens.com. **PAPER TREE** (paper) Yuzen White Dots on Lake fine paper, \$8 per 19" x 25" sheet, papersource.com; (bells) Goldtone ¼"- and ½"-wide jingle bells, \$10 for a mixed set of 200, orientaltrading.com. **FABRIC BACKGROUND** 36203 polyester fabric in sapphire by Duralee, duralee.com, decorativebuyingservice.com for buying info.



black, hot pink, and gold:

GIFT WRAP (clockwise from top left) Glitter gift wrap in fuchsia, \$10 per roll, papersource.com; Kate Spade New York Reversible gift wrap in black stripe, \$12 per roll, lifeguardpress.com; Dots double-sided gift wrap, \$9 per roll, smockpaper.com. **RIBBONS** (clockwise from top left) Offray single-face 5/8"-wide satin ribbon in white, \$4 for 18 feet; Offray 1 1/2"-wide ribbon in shocking pink, \$8 for 9 feet; and Single-face 7/8"-wide satin ribbon in shocking pink, \$5 for 18 feet, all joann.com; (gold dots) Party Partners paper circle ribbon in gold glitter, \$6 for 3 yards, parksidepapers.com. **GOLD BALLS TIE-ON** Glass 25-mm-thick balls on picks in shiny gold, \$20 for a set of 144, jamaligarden.com. **GLITTER LETTER** Glitter initial 4"-tall gift tag, \$12, lifeisrosier.etsy.com. **STAR TAG** Kate Spade New York 6" x 4" paper ornaments, \$16 for a mixed set of 6, lifeguardpress.com. **ORNAMENTS** (gold) Gift-boxed 2 1/2"- to 4"-diameter shatterproof plastic Christmas ball ornaments in black and gold, \$40 for a mixed set of 27; and (pink) Jewel-tone 3-finish 2 1/2"-diameter shatterproof plastic Christmas ball ornaments, \$30 for a set of 100, all christmascentral.com. **FABRIC BACKGROUND** Broadmoor polyester fabric in midnight by Kravet, kravet.com, decorativebuyingservice.com for buying info.



tone 3-finish 2 1/2"-diameter shatterproof plastic Christmas ball ornaments, \$30 for a set of 100, all christmascentral.com. **FABRIC BACKGROUND** Broadmoor polyester fabric in midnight by Kravet, kravet.com, decorativebuyingservice.com for buying info.



chartreuse, pine green, and peach:

GIFT WRAP (from top right) Hilda silk-screen gift wrap in green, \$20 per 24" x 36" sheet, bellinvito.com; Ginkgo wrap, \$6.50 for 2 20" x 30" sheets, snowandgraham.com; Shimmer double-sided gift wrap, \$9 per roll, smockpaper.com. **RIBBONS** Color Twist 3/8"-wide wool ribbons in chartreuse and emerald, \$12 each for 10 yards, knotandbow.etsy.com; Stripes 5/8"-wide cotton ribbon in celery, \$26 for 30 yards, paperpresentation.com. **PAPER FLOWER** (paper) Agnes silk-screen gift wrap in orange, \$20 per 24" x 36" sheet, bellinvito.com; (pearls) Darice 1"-wide pearl corsage pins in white, \$8 for a set of 144, amazon.com. **STRING BEADS** Fused string 6-mm-thick pearl beads in silver metallic, \$5 for 36 feet, factorydirectcraft.com. **TAG** Emerald Peonies 2" x 3 1/2" gift tags, \$7 for a set of 10, riflepaperco.com. **ORNAMENTS** 2 3/4"-diameter matte glass ball Christmas ornaments in elf suit green, \$35 for a set of 36, and 2"-diameter matte glass ball Christmas ornaments in elf suit green, \$30 for a set of 48, both christmascentral.com; Crackle Mercury 3"-diameter glass ornaments in silver, \$5 each, lunabazaar.com; (on present) Color Works 1 1/4"-diameter glass ball Christmas ornaments, \$13 for a mixed set of 34, christmascentral.com. **FABRIC BACKGROUND** Sensuede polyester-polyurethane fabric in pear by S. Harris, sharris.com, decorativebuyingservice.com for buying info.



.com; Crackle Mercury 3"-diameter glass ornaments in silver, \$5 each, lunabazaar.com; (on present) Color Works 1 1/4"-diameter glass ball Christmas ornaments, \$13 for a mixed set of 34, christmascentral.com. **FABRIC BACKGROUND** Sensuede polyester-polyurethane fabric in pear by S. Harris, sharris.com, decorativebuyingservice.com for buying info.



tan, plum, and olive green:

GIFT WRAP (clockwise from top left) Sand Dollars gift wrap, \$3.50 per 22" x 28" sheet, luxepaperie.com; Burlap gift wrap, \$8 per roll, containerstore.com; Paint Splatter gift wrap in purple, \$6 per roll, 625paper.com; Misstiina Solid grape satin gift wrap, \$15 per roll, spoonflower.com; Violets wrap, \$6.50 for 2 20" x 30" sheets, snowandgraham.com. **RIBBONS** (clockwise from top left) Velvet 1/4"-wide ribbon in willow, \$1 per yard, mjtrim.com; Ruby Italian jute spring twine, \$15 for 200 feet, and Celebrate It Occasions 4"-wide wired burlap ribbon, \$10 for 7 yards, both michaels.com; Velvet 1 3/8"-wide ribbon in willow, \$3 per yard, mjtrim.com; Natural 3/8"-wide burlap woven ribbon, \$7.50 for 5 yards, papersource.com. **ACORNS** Roost Wildwood felt acorns in fir green, \$36 for a mixed set of 24, elizabethsembellishments.com. **WOOD TAG** Ornament wood die-cut tag, from \$3.50, giftwrapcompany.com for buying info. **PINECONE** Gold 2"-tall pinecones, \$6 for



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house tours

Cozy Christmas House, pages 105-113

Entry: **CONSOLE** (custom) IKEA. **RUG AND CHAIR** vintage. **GIFT WRAP** Midnight Floral gift wrap, \$9 for 3 sheets, riflepaperco.com; Bar gift wrap, \$8 per roll, smockpaper.com. **RIBBON** Grosgrain ribbon in coral, bbcrafts.com. **Fireplace:** **BRASS DEER** vintage, ebay.com. **PAINTING** vintage. **CANDLEHOLDERS** Target. **GIFT WRAP** Midnight Floral gift wrap, \$9 for 3 sheets, riflepaperco.com; Holiday Bouquet by Alethea and Ruth gift wrap in midnight, \$15 for 5 sheets, minted.com. **RIBBONS** Grosgrain ribbon in coral and Single-faced satin ribbon in spring moss, both bbcrafts.com. **Living Room:** **CHRISTMAS TREE** 7'-tall Fraser fir tree, silentnightevergreens.com. **ORNAMENTS** Black Matte With White Glitter 6"-diameter plastic Christmas ornaments, \$8 each; Hammered Disco Ball 3¼"-diameter plastic Christmas ornaments in gold, \$4 for a set of 4; Red and White Glitter Striped 4"-diameter plastic onion and ball Christmas ornaments, \$23 for a set of 9; Shiny burgundy 4"-diameter plastic Christmas ornaments, \$2 each; and Red and Silver Snowflake 3¼"-diameter plastic

Christmas ornaments, \$15 for a set of 6, all christmascentral.com. **GIFT WRAP** (from left) Midnight Floral gift wrap, \$9 for 3 sheets, riflepaperco.com; Evergreen Forest by Melanie Severin gift wrap in kraft, \$15 for 5 sheets, minted.com; Solid-color gift wrap in sage, \$21 per roll, zazzle.com; Holiday Bouquet by Alethea and Ruth gift wrap in midnight, \$15 for 5 sheets, minted.com; Bar gift wrap, \$8 per roll, smockpaper.com; Solid-color gift wrap in red, \$6 per roll, papersource.com. **RIBBONS** Grosgrain ribbon in coral and Single-faced satin ribbon in spring moss, both bbcrafts.com. (all others) Solid grosgrain and quatrefoil, both ribbonand bowsohmy.com. **SOFA** chairish.com. **CHAIR** Pottery Barn. **COFFEE TABLE** vintage. **RUG** Dash & Albert Herringbone 8' x 10' cotton rug in coral, \$412, laylagrace.com. **POM-POM-TRIMMED PILLOWS** West Elm. **Home Office:** **SECRETARY** 19th C. French iron secretary, restoration hardware.com. **CHAIR** Industry West. **PRINT** fab.com. **Family Room:** **SOFA, CHAIR, AND LAMP** Anthropologie. **COFFEE TABLE** Soft Modern 49¾"W x 18"D x 17¼"H faux-Carrara marble and walnut coffee table, \$115, sauder.com. **RUG** Homespun Trellis 8½' x 11½' wool rug, \$1,379, rugsusa.com. **Dining Room:** **HUTCH** vintage. **CHAIRS** Industry West. **RUG** Dot 'N Dash 4' x 6' recycled plastic outdoor rug in red, \$349, potterybarn.com. **TABLECLOTH** Dots Red 60" x 108" cotton sateen tablecloth, \$95, unisonhome.com. **Master Bedroom:** **SHAMS** Hawthorns Stripe 26" x 26" cotton canvas pillow cover, \$80, caitlinwilson.com. **BED** Room & Board. **SIDE TABLE** vintage. **RUG** Anthropologie. **LAMPS** Pottery Barn. **BEDDING** West Elm. **Eleanor's Bedroom:** **BED** Jenny Lind bed in white, landofnod.com. **DESK** Target. **DESK CHAIR** vintage. **ROCKING CHAIR**

Urban Outfitters. **DRAGONFLY PILLOW** Target. **CHANDELIER** Mobile large chandelier in antique bronze, westelm.com. **DRAPES** IKEA. **CURTAIN RODS** Country Curtains. **RUG** Land of Nod. **Playroom:** **RUG** Dwell Studio. **CURTAIN FABRIC** Moda. **ORNAMENTS** 3-D Star 5"-diameter wool ornaments in cream on red and red on cream, \$18 each, arcadiahomeinc.com. **BEANBAGS** 30"-diameter beanbags in new red and new pink, \$99 each, landofnod.com. **HOMEOWNER'S WEBSITE** makingitlovely.com. **Visions of Sugarplums, pages 114-125** Unless otherwise noted, all items available at Candelabra or Lyndon Leigh, Mount Pleasant, SC, 800-440-5121, shopcandelabra.com. **Entry:** **STOOL** Zentique vanity stool, \$1,363. **FRAMED PRINT** Natural Curiosities Pirooni Collection print, \$1,988. **TABLE** Bungalow 5 Parsons console in white, \$1,059. **RUG** Jaipur Scandinavia rug in white and deep charcoal, \$263. **LAMP** For a similar look, try shopcandelabra.com. **CANDY CANES** Target stores. **Living Room:** **RUG** White hide. **COFFEE TABLE** Mr. Brown Remy coffee table. **CONSOLE** Oly Dylan entertainment console. **LAMP** Mr. Brown Escalante lamp in silver blue. **PILLOWS** (on sofa, from back) Ryan Studio Parker stripe pillow in spa, \$238; Square Feathers Rhapsody 18" x 18" pillow in pink zigzag, \$202; Ryan Studio Giorgio linen flange, \$188. **THROW** (on sofa) Pyar & Co. Kamalam throw, \$229. **CHAIR** (custom) Betsy chair in white with pink piping. **PILLOW** (on chair) Polka-dot pillow in pink, \$148. **MIRROR** Eyelash mirror in gold, \$210. **ART** (on main wall, clockwise from left) *Umbrellas* print, \$775; *Black and White Aztec Abstract* print, \$388; *Throwbridge Balloon Dancers* print, \$766. **WOOD BOWL** Oly. **CHRISTMAS TREE ORNAMENTS** Target stores; Hobby Lobby stores. **House Exterior:** **PENDANT** Robert Abbey Jonathan Adler Rio pendant, \$543. **SCONCES** Restoration Warehouse Suffolk #2 wall lantern in copper finish. **ROCKING CHAIRS** crackerbarrel.com. **PILLOWS** Ryan Studio Parker stripe pillows in plumberry, \$238 each. **Dining Room:** **DINING TABLE** unavailable, Julian Chichester. **RUG** Oly Hide Patched rug. **CANDLESTICKS** Oly. **PENDANT** Julian Chichester Jacobs lantern in dirty gold. **CHAIRS** Bungalow 5 Oslo arm chairs, \$509 each. **PILLOWS** Pink & Natural Silk Mulberry pillows, \$245 each. **DECORATIONS** (on shelves) Oly Plankton objects in white; Oly Pluto vase in green; Sklo opaque wrap in new blue, \$207. **ART** *Throwbridge Diver* print, \$2,805. **Kitchen:** **CABINET HARDWARE** lowes.com. **SUBWAY TILES** lowes.com. **DINING TABLE** CFC Reclaimed Lumber Farm dining table, \$2,343. **RUG** Aelfie 8' x 10' Lounah rug, \$1,189. **CHANDELIER** Arteriors Tilda chandelier, \$1,512. **BENCH** Curry and Company Diva bench in custom fabric. **CHAIRS** Anime Transparent acrylic dining chairs, \$298 each. **ART** (above stove) Natural Curiosities *Feather Monoprint* framed print in pink, \$738; (on counter) Natural Curiosities *"Choose a Job You Love"* framed print, \$200. **PENDANTS** Arteriors Shelton Cylinder seedy glass pendants,



See more of this home's fun holiday decor starting on page 105.

**STATEMENT OF OWNERSHIP,
MANAGEMENT AND CIRCULATION**

\$468 each. **CANDY JAR** BoBo Intriguing Objects candy jar, \$438. **TRAY** (by sink) Regina Andrew Chevron tray in turquoise, \$198. **Sonny's Room: TABLETOP TREE** hobbylobby.com. **BED** Eloquence Sophia bed, \$4,125. **COVERLET** Clare Coverlet in full/queen, \$393. **THROW** Pyar & Co. Nanda throw, \$239. **SHAMS** Clare standard sham, \$90; Cococozy Plaid standard shams in taupe. **PILLOWS** Ryan Studio Sophia Diamond pillows in fuchsia, \$213 each; Caitlin Wilson Key pillows in mint green, \$65 each; Scalloped pillow in fuchsia, \$119. **CHANDELIER** Canopy Designs Petite Florentine chandelier in white, \$2,755. **HEADRESS** Outpost Original Cameroon feather headress in pink, \$658. **PINK GARDEN STOOL** Stray Dog Designs Flower stool and accent table, \$395. **RING HOLDER** (on stool) Jonathan Adler Elephant ring bowl, \$88. **BUBBLE CHAIR** Bolo chair, \$1,998. **THROWS** Aelfie sheepskin throws in flamingo and mint, \$249 each. **PILLOWS** (on bubble chair) PHI Hashtag Selfie pillow, \$31; Scalloped pillow in fuchsia, \$119; Cross pillow in pink, \$79. **BASKET** Begonia Pink woven baskets, \$143 for a set of 2. **BLUE GARDEN STOOL** Stray Dog Designs Net stool and accent table, \$395. **FAUX DEER HEAD** unavailable. **Sofie's Room: BED CURTAINS AND BED SKIRT** Target. **PENDANT** Selamat Calabash medium pendant, \$280. **BED** Oly Faline bed. **NIGHTSTAND** For a similar look, try World's Away Pagoda nightstand, \$1,238. **LAMP** (on nightstand) Emporium Home Candace lamp in coral, \$398. **FIGURINE** (on nightstand) Global Views Gold Animal antelope, \$30. **FLOOR LAMP** Jamie Young Co. Longshan lamp in white, \$663, with seagrass lamp shade, \$250. **WALL ART** Wall wishbone, \$99. **PEACE SIGN** Lighted Peace sign, \$398. **THROW** Tracey coverlet in full/queen, \$305. **COVERLET** Louisa coverlet in full/queen, \$413. **PILLOWS** Nicaragua pillow, \$118; Light Blue Sky pillow, \$98. **RUG** Striped runner, \$191. **Master Bedroom: BED** Oly Willa bed. **PILLOWS** (on bed) Stripe pillow in oatmeal, \$138;

Jaipur Allure pillow in fuchsia, \$67; Julian Chichester woven pillow in blue. **CHANDELIER** Grace & Blake large feather lamp in camel, \$2,587. **NIGHTSTANDS** unavailable. **SHEETS** Dwell Studio. **BLANKET** Vintage wedding blanket. **NECKLACE SCULPTURE** *Blue Necklace on Stand*. **LAMPS** Arteriors Mandarin lamp in chalk white, \$792. **WALL ART** *Throwbridge Surf Riders*, \$2,805. **CHAIR** Oly Hanna chair in leather. **PILLOW** (on chair) Julian Chichester. **SIDE TABLE** Gabby Floyd side table, \$248. **VASE** (on table) Global Views Sea Star vase, \$30. **RUG** Tibetan lamb rug. **HOMEOWNER'S SHOPS** Candelabra and Lyndon Leigh, Mount Pleasant, SC, 800-440-5121, shopcandelabra.com.

kitchen style

Dream Kitchen on a Dime, pages 127-131

LIGHT FIXTURE (above sink) Satellite 2¼" sconce in natural brass with factory shade No. 3 in gloss black, schoolhouseelectric.com. **SINK** Domsjö double-bowl sink, ikea.com. **CABINETS** IKEA. **CABINETRY HARDWARE** Lews Hardware 5"-wide bar pull in brushed brass, myknobs.com. **STOOL** Bertoia wire counter chair, exclusivemod.com. **PENDANT LIGHTS** custom. (shade) fenchelshades.com; (lamp hardware) grandbrass.com. **WALLPAPER** Etched Arcadia mural, anthropologie.com. **SETTEE** Laurent salon bench, restorationhardware.com. **WALL SCONCE** (above settee) Isaac short arm sconce in black, schoolhouseelectric.com. **PATTERNED GREEN PILLOWS** (on rocker and settee) Surya Spellbound by Stripes 18" x 20" cotton pillows in green; (on settee) Surya Moderne 18" x 18" polyester pillows in green, all wayfair.com. **POUF** NuLoom Handmade Casual Living Moroccan leather ottoman pouf in gold, overstock.com.

Corrections The following items were credited incorrectly in the October 2015 issue: **Page 108 BAR** custom, Green Point Concepts, greenpointconcepts.com. **Page 117 CHAIR FABRIC** Marrakesh Firefly, \$38 per yard, lacefielddesigns.com.

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decorate!

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rug

Alexander Home Maria
3'6" x 5'6" cotton rug in
blue multi, overstock.com



\$55
plates

Vagabond Vintage
8"-diameter
ceramic plates,
price is for a
mixed set of 4,
burkedecor.com



CHRISTINA'S
PICK

\$13
knobs

1 3/4"-diameter brass
knobs, price is for a set
of 2, zarahome.com



\$80
**dining
chair**

Linen and wood
chair, T.J.Maxx stores



HILARY'S
PICK



\$38 **pendant**

Ashley Furniture Idania
9"H x 10"-diameter metal
and wood pendant in
gray, unbeatable.com



\$23 **pillow**

Jacquard-Weave
20" x 20" polyester
and cotton pillow
cover in orange and
insert, both hm.com



\$67
table

Dobson 22 1/2"H x
19 3/4"-diameter wood
table in yellow,
allmodern.com



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